

## At Press Time: CA MANHUNT CONTINUES IN SNOWSTORM



Officer Steven Spagon mans a check point during the search for fired LA officer, Christopher Dorner in Big Bear Lake, Calif. Friday, Feb. 8, 2013.  
(AP Photo/Chris Carlson)

**GREG RISLING**  
**TAMI ABDOLLAH**  
**Associated Press**  
**BIG BEAR LAKE, Calif. (AP)** — All that was left were footprints leading away from Christopher Dorner's burned-out pickup truck, and an enormous, snow-covered mountain where he could be hiding among the skiers, hundreds of cabins and dense woods. More than 100 officers, including SWAT teams, were driven in glass-enclosed snow machines and armored personnel carriers to hunt for the former Los Angeles police officer suspected of going on a deadly rampage to get back at those he blamed for ending his police career. With bloodhounds in tow, officers went door to door as snow fell, aware to the reality they could be walking into a trap set by the well-trained former Navy reservist who knows their tactics and strategies as well as they do.

Continued on Page 3

# No Fly List

## Blizzard paralyzes travel in Northeast US

Travelers view marquee of cancelled flights at LaGuardia Airport Friday, Feb. 8, 2013, in New York. Most airlines were giving up on flying in and out of New York, Boston and other regional airports on Friday as a potentially historic storm began bearing down on the Northeast US.

(AP Photo/Frank Franklin II)

### American Airlines

#### ARRIVALS

EID# QJ08065423

	Time	Remarks	Flight	Gate
Atlanta	1:59p	Now 1:33p	AA 4668	C5
Atlanta	3:25p	Cancelled	XL 6229	
Atlanta	5:25p	Cancelled	XL 6223	
Atlanta	8:05p	Cancelled	XL 6224	
Atlanta	9:45p	Cancelled	XL 6278	C1
Atlanta	1:55p	Cancelled	XL 6245	C5
Charlotte, NC	6:15p	Cancelled	XL 6241	C1
Charlotte, NC	7:40p	Cancelled	XL 6262	C1
Chicago O'Hare	2:15p	Now 2:08p	BA 6631	D3
Chicago O'Hare	3:25p	Cancelled	BA 6629	D7
Chicago O'Hare	4:40p	Cancelled	BA 6623	D6
Chicago O'Hare	5:35p	Cancelled	AS 1123	D5
Chicago O'Hare	6:35p	Cancelled	AS 1000	D7
Chicago O'Hare	8:00p	Cancelled	BA 6619	D3
Chicago O'Hare	8:40p	Cancelled	BA 6615	D6
Chicago O'Hare	8:55p	Cancelled	BA 6609	D10
Chicago O'Hare	10:05p	Cancelled	BA 6607	D8
Chicago O'Hare	10:50p	Cancelled	AS 1006	D2
Chicago O'Hare	11:35p	Cancelled	BA 6597	D6
Chicago O'Hare	12:45p	Now 2:11p	AA 4510	C1
Chicago O'Hare	3:40p	Cancelled	AA 4554	D1
Chicago O'Hare	6:25p	Cancelled	AA 4528	C8
Chicago O'Hare	3:30p	Cancelled	AA 4567	C1
Chicago O'Hare	5:10p	Cancelled	AA 4427	D1
Chicago O'Hare	7:15p	Cancelled	AA 4557	D1
Chicago O'Hare	12:45p	Claim B	BA 6689	D8
Chicago O'Hare	2:20p	Now 1:56p	BA 6691	D5
Chicago O'Hare	2:45p	Now 2:27p	BA 6695	D6

1:16PM February 8



## Activists: Path to US citizenship, nothing less

**ERICA WERNER**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Immigration activists on Friday rejected the idea of granting legal status short of U.S. citizenship to illegal immigrants in emerging legislation. The activists said that only citizenship would be acceptable for the nation's 11 million illegal immigrants and that the compromise idea floated by some House Republicans, offering legalization but not citizenship, won't work. Frank Sharry, executive director of America's Voice, said allowing illegal immigrants to legalize their status without the prospect of citizenship would "create an institutionalized group of second-class non-citizens."

"When we've said to a whole group of people, 'You're good enough to work here but not good enough to be one of us,' it hasn't worked out well," Sharry said on a conference call with other activ-

ists to urge swift action on comprehensive immigration legislation.

A framework for a bipartisan bill in the Senate includes a path to citizenship, which President Barack Obama also supports. But some House Republicans uncomfortable with letting illegal immigrants become citizens — labeled amnesty by critics — have suggested finding another way of dealing with them.

At a hearing earlier this week, House Judiciary Committee Chairman Bob Goodlatte, a Republican, raised the question, "Are there options we should consider between the extremes of mass deportation and a pathway to citizenship for those not lawfully present in the United States?" Activists on Friday's call noted citizens have rights, including voting, that non-citizens don't have. "Those rights cannot be negated to a whole population, so that's what we're fighting for," said An-

gelica Salas with the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles

Even if illegal immigrants are given the right to become citizens, it's likely many would not pursue the opportunity, for various reasons. A Pew Hispanic Center study this week said that of 5.4 million immigrants from Mexico who are eligible to become U.S. citizens, only 36 percent had taken the step. Across all immigrant groups, 61 percent of those eligible have achieved citizenship. The study cited various factors, including people who said they don't know English, a requirement for citizenship, and the cost of filing a citizenship request, which is \$680. As for why Mexicans were less likely than other groups to pursue citizenship, the study said that Mexicans are more likely than others to maintain close ties with their home country because of its close proximity to the U.S. □



Newly-sworn in U.S. citizens attend an induction ceremony at the Fairplex in Pomona, Calif.  
(AP Photo/Nick Ut)

## State of the Union address

### Rand Paul to deliver Tea Party response

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — Sen. Marco Rubio is not the only potential Republican presidential candidate delivering a response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union address. Sen. Rand Paul is giving the tea party's response. The Tea Party Express, one of the largest organizations

in the movement, said Friday that the Kentucky senator will deliver its response. The conservative lawmaker will speak immediately after Rubio, who is giving the official Republican response to the president Tuesday night.

The group says it's pleased that Rubio and Paul, both

of whom had the backing of the movement in their 2010 elections, will be speaking.

Previous tea party speakers who countered Obama's major address were Rep. Michele Bachmann of Minnesota and 2012 presidential candidate Herman Cain. □



Secretary of State John Kerry holds a bilateral meeting with Canadian Foreign Minister John Baird, Friday, Feb. 8, 2013, at the State Department in Washington.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

## Kerry promises Keystone XL decision in 'near term'

**MATTHEW DALY**  
**Associated Press**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. Secretary of State John Kerry on Friday promised a "fair and transparent" review of a Canadian company's plan to pipe oil from western Canada to refineries in Texas.

In his first comments about the controversial Keystone XL pipeline since becoming secretary of state, Kerry said he is waiting for a review begun by his predecessor, Hillary Rodham Clinton, and hopes to make a decision in the "near term." The State Department has jurisdiction over the \$7 billion pipeline because it crosses an international border.

Kerry, who met with Canadian Foreign Minister John Baird on Friday, praised Canada as a close ally and the largest energy supplier to the U.S. He declined to comment on the pipeline's merits, but he said the review process begun under Clinton is well under way. "I can guarantee you that it will be fair and transparent, accountable, and we hope that we will be able to be in a position to make an announcement in the near term," he said.

Calgary-based TransCanada has proposed the 1,700-mile (2,700-kilometer) pipeline to carry oil derived from tar sands in Alberta to refineries in the Houston area.

The pipeline plan has be-

come a flashpoint in the U.S. debate over climate change. Republicans and business and labor groups have urged the Obama administration to approve the pipeline as a source of much-needed jobs and a step toward North American energy independence.

Environmental groups have been pressuring President Barack Obama to reject the pipeline, saying it would carry "dirty oil" that contributes to global warming. They also worry about a spill.

Kerry said he pays "great respect" to the importance of the U.S. energy relationship with Canada and the overall relationship between the two neighbors.

"Canada is our largest energy supplier, and our shared networks of electrical grids keep energy flowing both ways across the border. As we move forward to meet the needs of a clean energy future on this shared continent we are going to continue to build on our foundation of cooperation," he said. Baird said he and Kerry had a good discussion on energy policy.

"Obviously, the Keystone XL pipeline is a huge priority for our government and the Canadian economy, and I appreciated the dialogue we had about what we could do to tackle environmental challenges together," he said. □



# NEW ARRIVALS

MONTBLANC 

NEW LOCATION

THE PALM BEACH PLAZA MALL - WALKING DISTANCE FROM HIGH RISE HOTELS AND THE MARRIOTT

## Hunt for ex-cop continues amid Calif. snowstorm

Continued from front

"The bad guy is out there, he has a certain time on you, and a distance. How do you close that?" asked T. Gregory Hall, a retired tactical supervisor for a special emergency response team for the Pennsylvania State Police.

"The bottom line is, when he decides that he is going to make a stand, the operators are in great jeopardy," Hall said.

As authorities weathered heavy snow and freezing temperatures in the mountains, thousands of heavily armed police remained on the lookout throughout California, Nevada, Arizona and northern Mexico.

Police said officers still were guarding more than 40 people mentioned as targets in a rant they said Dornier posted on Facebook. He vowed to use "every bit of small arms training, demolition, ordinance and survival training I've been given" to bring "warfare" to the LAPD and its families.

At noon, police and U.S. Marshals accompanied by computer forensics specialists served a search warrant on his mother's

house in the Orange County city of La Palma. Dornier's mother and sister were there at the time, and a police spokesman said they were cooperating.

Some law enforcement officials speculated that he appeared to be everywhere and nowhere, and that he was trying to spread out their resources.

grounded helicopters with heat-sensing technology. After the discovery of his truck Thursday afternoon, SWAT teams in camouflage started scouring the

ing folks as well as looking at each individual cabin to see if there's any signs of forced entry," said San Bernardino County Sheriff John McMahon.

The small army has the advantage of strength in numbers and access to resources, such as special weapons, to bring him in.

"We're prepared to use our expertise in terms of special weapons and tactics to address any threat that he poses," LAPD Deputy Chief Kirk Albanese said. "We're working with other agencies ... to make sure we take the advantage of our side as much as we can."

In his online rant, Dornier sprinkled in military and police parlance, seemingly baiting authorities.

"Any threat assessments you generate will be useless," it read. "This is simple. I know your TTP's (techniques, tactics, and procedures) and PPR's (pre-planned response). I will mitigate any of your attempts at preservation."

Without the numbers that authorities have, Dornier will likely rely on the element of surprise, experts said.

"He doesn't even have to stand and fight," Hall said. □



A San Bernardino County Sheriff SWAT team returns to the command post at Bear Mountain near Big Bear Lake, Calif. after searching for Christopher Jordan Dornier on Friday, Feb. 8, 2013. Search conditions have been hampered by a heavy winter storm in the area.

(AP Photo/Will Lester)

The manhunt had Southern California residents on edge. Unconfirmed sightings were reported near Barstow, about 60 miles north of the mountain search, at Point Loma base near San Diego and in downtown Los Angeles.

For the time being, their focus was on the mountains 80 miles east of Los Angeles — a snowy wilderness, filled with deep canyons, thick forests and jagged peaks, that creates peril as much for Dornier as the officers hunting him. Bad weather

mountains.

As officers worked through the night, a storm blew in, possibly covering the trail of tracks that had led them away from his truck but offering the possibility of new trails to follow.

"The snow is great for track-



# Blizzard paralyzes travel in Northeast US

**BOSTON (AP)** — A storm that forecasters warned could be a blizzard for the history books began clobbering the New York-to-Boston corridor on Friday, grounding thousands of flights, closing workplaces and sending people rushing to get home ahead of a possible 1 to 3 feet of snow. From New Jersey to Maine, shoppers crowded into supermarkets and hardware stores to buy food, snow shovels, flashlights and generators, something that became a precious commodity after Superstorm Sandy in October. Others gassed up their cars, another lesson learned all too well after Sandy. Across much of New England, schools closed well ahead of the first snowflakes.

"This is a storm of major proportions," Boston Mayor Thomas Menino warned.

the start of a weekend, which meant fewer cars on the road and extra time for



**Tow truck operator Shawn Juhre sets up road safety reflectors before towing a car out of a ditch during a winter snow storm in Buffalo, N.Y., Friday, Feb. 8, 2013. Snow began falling across the Northeast on Friday, ushering in what was predicted to be a huge, possibly historic blizzard and sending residents scurrying to stock up on food and gas up their cars.**

(AP Photo/David Duprey)

"Stay off the roads. Stay home."

The wind-whipped snowstorm mercifully arrived at

sanitation crews to clear the mess before commuters in the New York-to-Boston region of roughly 25

million people have to go back to work. But it could also mean a weekend cooped up indoors.

Rainy Neves, a mother of two in Cambridge, just west of Boston, did some last-minute shopping at a grocery store, filling her cart to the brim.

"Honestly, a lot of junk — a lot of quick things you can make just in case lights go out, a lot of snacks to keep the kids busy while they'd be inside during the storm, things to sip with my friends, things for movies," she said. "Just a whole bunch of things to keep us entertained."

In heavily Catholic Boston, the archdiocese urged parishioners to be prudent about attending Sunday Mass and reminded them that, under church law, the obligation "does not apply when there is grave difficulty in fulfilling this obligation."

Halfway through what had been a mild winter across the Northeast, blizzard warnings were posted from parts of New Jersey to Maine. The National Weather Service said Boston could get close to 3 feet of snow by Saturday evening, while most of Rhode Island could receive more than 2 feet. Connecticut was bracing for 2 feet, and New York City was expecting as much as 14 inches. By Friday evening, the New York-to-Boston corridor was getting blowing, swirling

snow and freezing rain. Early snowfall was blamed for a 19-car pileup in Cumberland, Maine, that caused minor injuries.

The snow was expected to be at its heaviest Friday night and into Saturday. Forecasters said wind gusts up to 75 mph could cause widespread power outages and whip the snow into fearsome drifts. Flooding was expected along coastal areas still recovering from Superstorm Sandy, which hit New York and New Jersey the hardest and is considered Jersey's worst natural disaster.

Meteorologist Jeff Masters, of Weather Underground, said the winter storm was a collision of two storms and may end up among the Boston area's Top 5 most intense ever.

"When you add two respectable storms together, you're going to get a knockout punch with this one," he said.

It could break Boston's all-time snowstorm record of 27.6 inches, set in 2003, forecasters said. The storm also comes almost 35 years to the day after the Blizzard of '78, a ferocious storm that dropped 27 inches of snow, packed hurricane-force winds and claimed dozens of lives.

Masters said the region could get a break from warmer air trailing behind that is expected to push temperature up to the 40s by Monday. □

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## Hacker gains access into Bush emails and photos

**MICHAEL GRACZYK**  
Associated Press

**HOUSTON (AP)** — A hacker apparently accessed private photos and emails sent between members of the Bush family, including both former presidents, and the Secret Service is investigating. The Smoking Gun website said the hacker, who went by the online moniker "Guccifer," gained access to emails, photos, private telephone numbers and addresses of Bush family members and friends.

The website displayed photos it said came from the hacker, including one that purported to show the elder Bush during his recent stay in a Houston hospital, where the 88-year-old spent almost two months being treated for complications from a bronchial infection. The authenticity of the photos and other details on the website could not immediately be confirmed. A spokesman for former President George H.W. Bush declined to comment on the reports. □



# NEW ARRIVALS

Salvatore Ferragamo

## NEW LOCATION

THE PALM BEACH PLAZA MALL - WALKING DISTANCE FROM HIGH RISE HOTELS AND THE MARRIOTT

## Amish leader gets 15 years in beard-cutting attacks

TRIP GABRIEL

© 2013 New York Times

The leader of a dissident Amish sect was sentenced Friday to 15 years in prison for a series of bizarre beard- and hair-cutting attacks on other Ohio Amish that drew national attention.

Samuel Mullet Sr., 67, the leader, was sentenced in U.S. District Court in Cleveland, for coordinating assaults that prosecutors argued were motivated by religious intolerance. Fifteen of his followers, including six women, were given lesser sentences ranging from one year and one day to seven years by Judge Dan Aaron Polster. The breakaway Amish were convicted last fall under multiple counts of conspiracy and hate crimes, which carry harsher punishment than simple assault. Prosecutors had asked for a life sentence for Mullet. Defense lawyers claimed the government was blowing out of proportion personal vendettas that Mullet harbored against former followers and other critics, and that the hair- and beard-cutting was humiliating but not physically injurious, and thus did not deserve a lengthy sen-

tence.

The series of five attacks in 2011 spread fear through Amish communities in eastern Ohio. Followers of Mullet broke into homes, restrained men and women and forcibly sheared their

tural identity.

Prosecutors argued that because of the religious symbolism of the attacks, they were hate crimes. Prosecutors asked for the life sentence for Mullet coordinating the attacks,

leaders to isolate him. He presided over a settlement of about 18 families reached by a dirt track near the town of Bergholz. The trial of the 16 defendants, including three of Mullet's sons, unveiled

how Mullet pressured married female followers, including a daughter-in-law, to have sex with him.

Mullet, speaking in court Friday before the sentencing, his ankles in chains and a white beard reaching his chest, said he was being blamed as a cult leader, which he denies. He asked that he be given the punishment for all the defendants, who include four married couples. "If somebody needs to be punished, I'll take the punishment for everybody," he said, according to the website of WKYC-TV in Cleveland. "Let these mothers and fathers go home to their families, raise their children."

Another defendant, Lester Miller, apologized before the sentencing to his parents, whom he and others, including his wife, Elizabeth Miller, had attacked. He asked the judge to spare his wife, "to put her sentence on me," so she could care for their 11 children, according to WKYC-TV.

Mullet's lawyer, Edward G. Bryan, had argued that his client had not directly ordered the attacks and asked for a sentence "sufficient but not greater than necessary." □



Amish members leave the federal courthouse in Cleveland, Ohio, Feb. 8, 2013. Samuel Mullet Sr., leader of a dissident Amish sect, was sentenced to 15 years in prison Friday for a series of bizarre beard- and hair-cutting attacks on other Amish that drew national attention.

(Michael F. McElroy/The New York Times)

victims, sometimes with tools used to clip horse manes. For Amish, descendants of 18th-century German-speaking immigrants, long beards and flowing women's hair represent religious devotion and cul-

though by all accounts he did not participate directly. Although Mullet is an Amish bishop, his strict interpretation of his faith and an abrasive personality had caused individuals to leave his fold and other Amish

a tiny sect in thrall to its leader, who in the name of purity abolished Sunday church services and punished men for ogling non-Amish women by confining them to chicken coops. Testimony also detailed

# More charges over Taliban corpse urination video

**MICHAEL BIESECKER**

**Associated Press**

**RALEIGH, North Carolina (AP)** — Two more U.S. Marines face criminal charges over a 2011 YouTube video showing members of a sniper platoon urinating on the corpses of Taliban fighters in Afghanistan.

The Marine Corps announced Friday that Sgt. Robert W. Richards faces charges including dereliction of duty and violating orders. Military prosecutors say he filmed himself and others urinating on the corpses.

Capt. James V. Clement

faces charges that include conduct unbecoming an officer and gentleman for failing to properly supervise junior Marines and making false statements to investigators.

Hearings will determine if there was evidence to proceed to courts martial. No date has been set.

The video, which received international condemnation, shows four Marines in full combat gear urinating on the bodies of three Afghans in July 2011. One Marine looks down at the bodies and jokes, "Have a good day, buddy."

John M. Dowd, a civilian defense lawyer who said he and a military attorney are representing Clement, said their client is a decorated combat veteran who had no knowledge of the urination incident until months later, when the video was posted on the Internet.

"Capt. Clement is not guilty of any offense and deserves the everlasting gratitude of the American people for his outstanding service in the Marine Corps," said Dowd.

Two other Marines have already faced courts martial.



**Staff Sgt. Edward W. Deptola, right, walks with his defense attorney, Maj. Tracey Holtshirley, at Camp Lejeune, N.C.**

(AP Photo/John Althouse)

Staff Sgt. Edward W. Deptola pleaded guilty to multiple charges last month, admitting to a judge that he urinated on one of the three corpses and posed in the "trophy photographs." Deptola said another sergeant in the platoon had been killed earlier that day by an IED, and the Marines believed the heavily

armed Taliban fighters they killed could have been responsible for it.

Under the terms of his pre-trial plea agreement, Deptola is set to be demoted one rank.

Staff Sgt. Joseph W. Chamblin, who pleaded guilty in December, was reduced in rank to sergeant and fined \$500. □

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## NY cannibalism trial jury pool shown kinky images

**L. NEUMEISTER**

**Associated Press**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Potential jurors seemed surprised at a New York City police officer's cannibalism trial Friday when a judge began by describing some sexually violent and deviant conduct they must witness before deciding whether the officer's plans to kill and eat women were fact or fiction.

And that was before they were handed questionnaires that included staged Internet color photographs of a nude woman hogtied on a roasting tray with an apple in her mouth and another naked woman tied horizontally to a pole over an open fire. A third page was a drawing of a bound naked woman boiling in a glass pot.

Officer Gilberto Valle, 28, is charged with conspiracy to commit kidnapping and with unauthorized access

to a federal database.

U.S. District Judge Paul G. Gardephe told potential jurors the trial would feature emails and instant messages in which Valle discussed in great detail the kidnapping, raping, torturing, murdering and cannibalizing of certain women.

He said the defense would argue that Valle's communications "were all sexual fantasy and imaginary role play, and that he never intended to kidnap, rape, torture, murder or eat any woman."

Many of Valle's communications took place on fetish websites in which people discuss, view and post images and videos of deviant conduct, including necrophilia, sexual asphyxiation, genital mutilation, rape fantasies, bondage and various forms of sadomasochism, the judge said. □





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## US lawmakers test waters for regulating drones

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. lawmakers are considering whether Congress should set up a special court to decide when drones can kill American al-Qaida suspects overseas, much as a secret court now grants permission for surveillance. The effort, after CIA Director-designate John Brennan's vigorous defense of a drone attack that killed U.S. citizens, reflects a philosophical struggle in government over remote warfare. Drone strikes have expanded dramatically in the Obama administration. Fewer than 50 took place during the Bush administration, while more than 360 strikes have been launched under Obama, according to the website The Long War Journal, which tracks the operations. The strikes have been credited with killing more than 70 senior al-Qaida and Taliban commanders in Pakistan alone since they began in 2004. The chairman of the Senate Intelligence Committee, Dianne Feinstein, said Thursday that she intended to review proposals for "legislation to ensure that drone strikes are carried out in a manner consistent with our values and the proposal to create an analogue of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court to review the conduct of such strikes."

Sen. Angus King Jr., in a letter Friday to senior leaders of the panel, suggested an "independent process — similar to the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court — to provide an appropriate check on the executive branch's procedure for determining whether us-

ing lethal force in a foreign country against a U.S. citizen would be lawful." In FISA proceedings, 11 federal judges review wiretap applications that enable the FBI and other agencies to gather evidence to build cases. Suspects have no lawyers present, as they would in other U.S. courts, and the proceedings are secret. The government presents its case to a judge, who issues a warrant or not. The notion of something similar for drone strikes drew immediate criticism from human rights and legal groups, which contend that such a court must allow the accused to mount a defense.

"It's not about evidence gathering, it's about punishment to the point of execution," said Mary Ellen O'Connell, professor of international law at the University of Notre Dame and a critic of the government's drone program. "We have never thought people could be executed without some kind of trial."

A former CIA official reacted coolly, too, but from the opposite direction. "I think it is reasonable to ask the question under what circumstances the president can use lethal force against a U.S. citizen overseas," said Jeff Smith, former general counsel of the CIA. "It's a frightening power, and I think we need to think very, very carefully about how that power is used and whether some judicial review is warranted."

"But I certainly don't think judicial review or congressional review is needed to strike al-Qaida or other ter-



Senate Intelligence Committee Chair Sen. Dianne Feinstein, D-Calif., right, welcomes CIA Director nominee John Brennan on Capitol Hill in Washington. Lawmakers are considering whether Congress can set up a court to decide when drones can kill U.S. citizens overseas, much like the secret courts that now grant permission for surveillance.

(AP Photo/J. Scott Applewhite)

rorists organizations," he said. The idea is also so preliminary that lawmakers can't yet say exactly how a new process would work. In fact, most of those interviewed said the current system run by the White House works well. Brennan pioneered the current process to determine which targets are dangerous enough to be placed on one of two hit lists for killing or capture — one held by the CIA and the other by the military's Joint Special Operations Command. □



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## EU leaders agree to \$1.28 trillion 7-year budget

**DON MELVIN**  
**S. DiLORENZO**  
**Associated Press**

**BRUSSELS (AP)** — European Union leaders agreed Friday to a significantly reduced 7-year budget worth €960 billion (\$1.28 trillion) — the first cut in spending in the 27-country group's history.

European Council President Herman Van Rompuy announced that the agreement had been reached after two days of nearly round-the-clock negotiations — the longest negotiations of his tenure in office. The final total was about 40 billion less than

the European Commission had originally proposed. The issue of what to give to the EU was made more difficult because, he said, its members were struggling with poor economic growth and harsh austerity measures.

"We simply could not ignore the extremely difficult economic realities across Europe," Van Rompuy told reporters. "It had to be a leaner budget."

He said it would amount to 1 percent of the European Union's gross national income.

The final number was far less than the €1.03 trillion (\$1.38 trillion) the EU's ex-



German Chancellor Angela Merkel, left, and France' President Francois Hollande, right, arrive together for their press conferences at the end of the EU Budget summit at the European Council building in Brussels, Friday, Feb. 8, 2013. European Union leaders have agreed to a significantly reduced budget that represents the first decrease in a budget in the union's history. European Council President Herman Van Rompuy said Friday that the agreement had been reached after two days of negotiations.

(AP Photo/Michel Euler)

ecutive arm, the European Commission, had originally proposed. The €959.988 billion total will cover the years 2014-2020; the budget for the years 2007-2013 was €975.777 billion.

The two-day fight over the cap on what the EU can spend on everything from infrastructure to development aid laid bare divisions over what the role of the union should be.

"The effort was worth it," said German Chancellor Angela Merkel. "The agree-

ment is good and important," she added, saying it would show solidarity and ensure predictability.

The European Parliament must still approve the deal — and lawmakers there suggested that the drastic cuts proposed would be unacceptable.

"This agreement will not strengthen the competitiveness of the European economy but weaken it," said a statement by the leaders of the four largest political groups in the

Parliament. "It is not in the prime interest of our European citizens."

The proposed budget has also been criticized for cutting too deeply into aid for poor countries and other programs critical for Europe.

At its heart, the hard-fought summit in Brussels was a tussle about what the 27-nation European Union stood for: some leaders argued it was a drag on national budgets in tough economic times, while others said the economic crisis highlighted the need for closer and deeper ties, which would compel the EU to do more than in the past.

The deal that emerged seemed to lean more toward the position of countries led by Britain, which insisted that the EU couldn't look for more money at a time of belt-tightening across Europe.

"The UK public can be proud that we cut the 'credit card level' for the first time ever," said British Prime Minister David Cameron. "I wanted a cut. That is what I achieved today. Working with allies, this is a great deal for Britain and a great deal for Europe. And a great deal for European taxpayers."

Indeed, it seemed a loss for many of the newer — and generally poorer — members, who see Europe as a club that is only as strong as its weakest member. That group, led by Poland and France, argued that Europe meant nothing if the budget were not used to bridge the wealth gap between rich and poor members and help restart growth. □

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## Sinn Fein chief asks IRA die-hards to end violence

**S. POGATCHNIK**  
**Associated Press**

**DUBLIN (AP)** — Sinn Fein party leader Gerry Adams appealed Friday to Irish Republican Army die-hards to

violence in 2005, said sporadic attacks by IRA splinter groups still opposed to Northern Ireland's Good Friday peace agreement make it harder to build

Good Friday deal. Both governments remain publicly cool on the idea in practice, citing the unrelenting hostility of the north's Protestant "unionist" majority to leaving the United Kingdom.

Adams, speaking to party supporters in the border town of Dundalk that he represents in the Irish parliament, said the only hope of winning a future referendum on taking Northern

Ireland into the Irish Republic would be "to find ways to engage with, and to listen to, the concerns and ambitions of our unionist neighbors."

"There is now a democratic and peaceful way to bring about Irish unity.

There is no reason whatever for any group to engage in or promote or support violent actions," Adams said.

"Violent actions will make

the task of achieving a 'yes' vote more difficult." Such peace feelers from Adams tend to fall on deaf ears both among IRA die-hards and Northern Ireland's Protestant communities.

The Protestants still view Adams as an architect of three decades of Provisional IRA warfare that claimed 1,775 lives, not of the relative peace since the Provisionals' 1997 cease-fire. □



Sinn Fein President Gerry Adams, left, and party colleague Conor Murphy, speak to the media and party members in Dundalk, Ireland, Friday, Feb. 8, 2013.

(AP Photo/Peter Morrison)

stop their violence and to support his seemingly Quixotic campaign for a vote in Northern Ireland on uniting politically with the rest of the island, the long-elusive dream of Irish republicans. Adams, a reputed former commander of the long-dominant Provisional IRA faction that renounced

public support for uniting the British territory with the Republic of Ireland. Sinn Fein this year has launched a campaign seeking support from the British and Irish governments to hold a referendum in both parts of Ireland on unity, an idea contained within the 1998

## Syrian rebels preparing for all-out advance on capital

**ZEINA KARAM**  
**Associated Press**

**BEIRUT (AP)** — Syrian rebels brought their fight within a mile of the heart of Damascus on Friday, seizing army checkpoints and cutting a key highway with a row of burning tires as they pressed their campaign for the heavily guarded capital, considered the likely endgame in the nearly 2-year-old civil war.

The clashes raised fears that Damascus, a major cultural center and one of the world's oldest continuously inhabited cities, could fall victim to a protracted battle that would

bring the destruction seen in other major cities and trigger a mass refugee exodus into neighboring countries. "Any attempt by the rebels to advance into central Damascus would mean the beginning of a very long fight," said Syrian activist Rami Jarrah. "I imagine Aleppo would be a small example of what is likely to happen in Damascus." Aleppo, Syria's largest urban center and main commercial hub, has been convulsed by violence since the summer, when rebels launched an offensive to take control of the city. □

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## Tunisia buries murdered politician as crisis deepens

**B.B. BOUAZZA**  
**PAUL SCHEMM**  
**Associated Press**

**TUNIS, Tunisia (AP)** — The funeral of an assassinated leftist politician drew hundreds of thousands of mourners chanting anti-government slogans to the Tunisian capital Friday — as well as gangs of armed youths who smashed cars and clashed with police just outside the cemetery. Hours later, the prime minister insisted he'd try to form a new government despite his own party's opposition, threatening to resign if his

proposal wasn't accepted. The events added to the growing turmoil in Tunisia, where the transition from dictatorship to democracy has been shaken by religious divides, political wrangling and economic struggles. It's been a perilous stretch for a country many hoped would be a model for other post-revolutionary Arab states. People from across the nation flowed into Tunis to lay to rest 48-year-old Chokri Belaid, a lawyer and top figure in the Popular Front alliance who was



**Thousands of Tunisians are gathered at el Jallez cemetery to attend the funeral of slain opposition leader Chokri Belaid, near Tunis, Friday Feb. 8, 2013.**  
 (AP Photo/Amine Landoulsi)

shot dead Wednesday. Thousands helped carry the coffin of the so-called "defender of the poor" from his parents' home to the Jellaz Cemetery a few kilometers away. The funeral "was one of the most impressive in the history of Tunisia," historian Slahhe-

dine Jouchi said, as demonstrators marched and chanted against the ruling Islamists. The turnout at the funeral was boosted due to a general strike called by Tunisia's most powerful labor union in honor of Belaid. Hamma Hammami of the Tunisian Workers Party

gave a eulogy as Belaid's friends and relatives wept. "Sleep well Chokri. We will continue the fight," the leftist leader promised as the acrid smell of tear gas from the clashes near the cemetery invaded the air. Tunisians overthrew their long-ruling dictator Zine El Abidine Ben Ali in January 2011, kicking off the Arab Spring revolutions. In the two years since, a moderate Islamist party, Ennahda, won elections and has governed in a coalition with two secular parties. But the ruling coalition's failure to stem the country's economic crisis and stop the often-violent rise of hardline Salafi Muslims have drawn fierce criticism, especially from staunch secularists such as Belaid. □



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## Horsemeat scandal reaches Sweden

**LONDON (AP)** — Sweden on Friday became the newest European country to be hit by a widening meat products scandal, as frozen-food company Findus said it was recalling beef lasagna meals there after tests confirmed the products contained horsemeat. Already, Britain, Ireland, Poland and France have been drawn into the growing saga over the use of horsemeat and the apparent mislabeling of products along the supply chain. Millions of burgers have been recalled in recent days due to the scandal. Eating horsemeat is not generally a health risk, but the cases have spurred dis-

gust in places where such meat is far from a staple. Earlier this week, Findus said it was recalling beef lasagna meals in Britain because of concerns raised by its French supplier Comigel. Tests later found that some of those meals contained between 60 to 100 percent horsemeat instead of beef. Then on Friday, a second British company, Aldi, confirmed that tests on Comigel-supplied products it had recently recalled — beef lasagna and frozen spaghetti bolognese — showed some contained between 30 and 100 percent horsemeat. Aldi said it felt "angry and

let down" by Comigel and that it was severing ties with the French supplier. Britain's Food Standards Agency said that in light of the latest information from Aldi, it is working with French authorities and recommends that any companies that have sourced beef products from Comigel "conduct a precautionary withdrawal of product." Findus official Henrik Nyberg said about 20,000 frozen lasagna meals are being recalled in Sweden. Nyberg told The Associated Press that the products don't pose any food safety risk, and were recalled solely because they had been mislabeled. □





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## Protests turn to street battles across Egyptian cities

MAGGIE MICHAEL  
Associated Press  
CAIRO (AP) — Egyptian security forces backed by water cannons fired tear gas at rock-throwing protesters outside the presidential palace in Cairo on Friday while demonstrators clashed with riot police in cities across the country in marches against Islamist President Mohammed Morsi.

The protests are part of a wave of opposition-led demonstrations over the past two weeks that have frequently devolved into street clashes. The violence has left more than 70 people dead and hundreds wounded, and plunged the country into a fresh cycle of bloodshed and political turmoil.

Egypt's opposition is demanding Morsi form a new coalition government, open an investigation into the killings of protesters over the past months and give guarantees that upcoming parliamentary elections will be fair and free.

They also want him to form a commission to amend the country's newly adopted constitution, which was drafted by an Islamist-led panel and approved last December in a contentious referendum.

Some of the protesters go even further, demanding Morsi be removed from office.

They also accuse the Mus-

lim Brotherhood, the fundamentalist group from which Morsi hails, of monopolizing power and failing to deal with the country's mounting woes.



**A demonstrator prepares to throw a tear gas canister back at security forces during clashes in Mahalla, Egypt, Friday, Feb. 8, 2013.**  
(AP Photo/Mohammed el Saeed)

Thousands took their demands to the streets in cities across the country on Friday, carrying Egyptian flags and pictures of slain protesters and chanting "down with the rule of the Guide," referring to Brotherhood Supreme Guide Mohammed Badie, who critics allege is calling the shots for Morsi from behind the scenes.

At the presidential palace in Cairo, the scene of repeated violent clashes since late last year, pro-

testers tried to remove the barbed wire at the front gate of the palace and fired flares at its perimeters. Riot police swiftly responded with water cannons

lometers (110 miles) north of Cairo, where riot police clashed with protesters in front of the office of governor Saad el-Husseini, who is a member of the Muslim

Brotherhood sign and burned it in front of the group's office while security forces used tear gas to disperse demonstrators in front of the governor's office.

Morsi and his allies accuse the opposition of trying to incite street violence to seize power after failing at the ballot box.

In a statement on Friday, Murad Ali, a spokesman for the Freedom and Justice party — the Muslim Brotherhood's political arm — warned the opposition that it would be responsible for any acts of violence that occur during protests. He also called them "losers."

The clashes over the past two weeks have fueled a sense that Egypt is coming unglued, while also raising concerns that the country could be hit by more — and greater — political violence.

Those worries sharpened after the assassination of a prominent anti-Islamist opposition leader in Tunisia on Wednesday, a killing that touched off a new wave of unrest there. □

and tear gas while protesters hurled stones. Violence also broke out in Kafr el-Sheik, some 180 ki-

lometers (110 miles) north of Cairo, where riot police clashed with protesters in front of the office of governor Saad el-Husseini, who is a member of the Muslim Brotherhood.

In the Mediterranean port city of Alexandria, protesters tore down a Brother-

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# Cuban protest leader gets passport to travel

**ANDREA RODRIGUEZ**

**Associated Press**

**HAVANA (AP)** — Cuban authorities granted a passport Friday to the leader of a protest group that received the European Union's top human rights prize in 2005, even as another, lesser-known dissident reported being told she will not be allowed to leave the country.

Berta Soler, the most prominent member of the Ladies in White, picked up her new passport in the morning and said she plans to make a long-delayed trip to Europe to pick up the EU's Sakharov award, something she has been unable to do until now because she was denied an exit visa.

The 50-year-old exit visa requirement, which was often denied to the likes of doctors, military officers and dissidents, has been abolished under travel reform that took effect Jan. 14. Soler said she would contact EU officials to schedule a date, and she's also hoping to visit Spain and attend two April human rights conferences in Panama and Germany.

"I have many invitations to different places," she told The Associated Press, holding up her new passport. The Ladies in White formed a decade ago to press for the release of their husbands, 75 dissidents imprisoned in a 2003 crackdown. All 75 have since been freed, and the Ladies have

refocused their message on demanding political change, with almost completely new membership. Soler is one of the few original members still active in the group.

Cuban authorities excoriate dissidents as treasonous "mercenaries" who ac-

terrevolutionary groups." Delgado already has a passport and has traveled in the past, but last year was denied an exit visa for a trip to the United States. Several dissidents including blogger Yoani Sanchez and hunger strike protester Guillermo Farinas say they

because they have legal sentences pending.

The new travel law eliminated the exit permit and eased bureaucratic procedures for going abroad, but contains language reserving the state's right to withhold passports for reasons of national security



**Berta Soler, leader of Cuban dissident group Ladies in White, poses with her new passport, standing next to her husband Angel Moya, in Havana, Cuba, Friday, Feb. 8, 2013.**

**(AP Photo/Ramon Espinosa)**

cept foreign money to undermine the island's communist-run government. Separately, activist Gisela Delgado, a former member of the Ladies, said she visited a migration office to inquire about her status and was told that "I was restricted from traveling because I belonged to coun-

have been told they can travel. Sanchez already has her passport and plans to visit Brazil on Feb. 17. A lesser-known dissident, Eliecer Avila, has already traveled to Sweden. However others, including Angel Moya, one of the 75 locked up in 2003, have been denied travel papers

and public interest. "Having a passport is no guarantee you can leave the country," Soler said. Delgado told the AP she does not have any legal cases pending with the state, and it was unclear why she would be black-listed while others are allowed to travel. □

# Venezuela devalues its currency by nearly half

**FABIOLA SANCHEZ**

**Associated Press**

**CARACAS, Venezuela**

**(AP)** — Venezuela's government announced Friday that it is devaluing the country's currency, a long-anticipated change expected to push up prices in the heavily import-reliant economy.

Officials said the fixed exchange rate is changing from 4.30 bolivars to the dollar to 6.30 bolivars to the dollar.

The devaluation had been widely expected by analysts in recent months, though experts had been unsure about whether the government would act while President Hugo Chavez remained out of sight in Cuba recovering from cancer surgery.

It was the first devaluation to be announced by Chavez's government since 2010, and it brought down the official value of the bolivar by 46.5 percent against the dollar. By boosting the bolivar value of Venezuela's dollar-denominated oil sales, the change is expected to help alleviate a difficult budget outlook for the government, which has turned increasingly to borrowing to meet its spending obligations.

Planning and Finance Minister Jorge Giordani said the new rate will take effect Wednesday, after the two-day holiday of Carnival. He said the old rate would still be allowed for some transactions that already were approved by the state currency agency. Venezuela's government has had strict currency exchange controls since 2003 and maintains a fixed, government-set exchange rate. Under the controls, people and businesses must apply to a government currency agency to receive dollars at the official rate to import goods, pay for travel or cover other obligations. □

# Sentence issued in USVI coral smuggling case

**CHARLOTTE AMALIE, U.S. Virgin Islands (AP)** — The former president and CEO of an upscale jewelry manufacturing company was fined nearly \$1 million Thursday for smuggling black coral into the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Ashu Bhandari also was ordered to spend one month in jail, complete 300 hours of community service and pay nearly \$230,000 to the University of the Virgin Islands for projects to research and protect black corals, the U.S. Justice Department said.

The sentence marks the end of one of the largest federal cases involving illegal trade in wildlife.

Bhandari pleaded guilty in November to one count of false classification of

goods to hide shipments of internationally protected black coral that his former company, Gem Manufacturing Inc., received from Taiwanese suppliers.

Bhandari was the last defendant to be sentenced in a case that spawned a three-year investigation that also sent two of his business partners to prison. Ivan and Gloria Chu of Taiwan-based Peng Chia Enterprise Co. Ltd. pleaded guilty in 2010 to illegally importing black coral as part of a plea deal. Ivan Chu agreed to serve 2 1/2 years in prison and pay a \$12,500 fine, while Gloria Chu agreed to serve 20 months and pay a \$12,500 fine.

In 2011, Bhandari's company was

ordered to forfeit dozens of jewelry items, sculptures and more than 13,600 pounds (6,000 kilograms) of raw black coral. Together they were worth about \$2.17 million.

Gem Manufacturing also was ordered to pay a nearly \$4.5 million fine, the largest ever at the time for non-seafood wildlife trafficking and the fourth-largest for any U.S. case involving illegal trade in wildlife.

Black coral is an organism that thrives in deep ocean water and grows on rocks like a plant. It can live for hundreds or thousands of years and can be harvested for jewelry and other purposes under strict trade regulations. □





# Last Lap!



Grand finale weekend for Aruba's Carnaval #59!



# Grand finale weekend for Aruba's Carnaval #59!

**ORANJESTAD / SAN NICOLAS** – The grand finale has come! This weekend will witness the climax of Aruba's world famous Carnaval, starting with the San Nicolas Grand Parade, taking place today, Saturday, February 9, at 1pm in downtown San Nicolas. Then before you can catch your breath, tomorrow, Sunday, February 10, the last parade of the season, Oranjestad's Grand Parade, will take place in downtown Oranjestad, starting at 1pm, and ending, well... when the party winds down! For those of you who started the party early in San Nicolas at the 'Jouvert Morning' Pajama Party last night, make sure to catch a nap somewhere during the wee hours! And for those who will party straight through the weekend with the twin Grand Parades, delight in the fact that Monday is a national holiday on the island, so you can take a day to unwind, catch up on some sleep after the big weekend, and then join us while we start preparing for Aruba's Carnaval #60! □



## At the Holiday Inn Beach Resort The Goetz and Borgacci families honored by ATA!



**PALM BEACH** - Recently the Aruba Tourism Authority had the great pleasure of honoring a very loyal and friendly family, as Distinguished Visitors of Aruba at the Holiday Inn Beach Resort. The symbolic honorary titles are presented in the name of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation to guests who visit Aruba for 10-to-19 consecutive years. The honorees were The Goetz family, including Andrew and Lorena

Goetz, their son Andrew Louis Goetz, and Anna Borgacci, who is Lorena's mother. The Goetz and Borgacci family love Aruba very much because of the friendly people of Aruba, the beaches, the beautiful weather, safety and the family atmosphere and lots of memories and the relaxation. The certificate was presented by Ernest Giel, representing the ATA, together with Pauline, representing the Holiday Inn Beach Resort. □

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**ORANJESTAD** - Diamonds International is celebrating Valentine's this whole week by creating a special promotion called 'Light



of My Life' inspired by our exclusive line of diamonds, Crown of Light.

The Contest begins February 11th and ends on February 17th, 2013. Participants are asked to pick up a form at our main store located in downtown, and write down an essay of 90 words or less in English. Essays which exceed the maximum length or are



illegible may not be considered. The essay must be original and should explain who or what you would describe to be the 'light of your life'. All entry forms must be entered no later than February 17th at Dia-

monds International. No purchase necessary. One winner will receive the following prize: A Crown of Light Blue® diamond pendant necklace and a trip for two people to New York City. The trip will include

hotel accommodations for two nights and round-trip plane tickets. Winner will be announced on February 27th 2013. Happy Valentine's Day and good luck to all romantics out there! □

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## Island guests enjoy Super Bowl Sunday at Tony Roma's!

**PALM BEACH** – Last weekend, island guests from all over the world converged on Tony Roma's to enjoy the Super bowl in style! Guests cheered for their teams and enjoyed the spirited atmosphere while treating themselves to Tony Roma's world famous Ribs and Chicken, as well as a few ice cold beers! Everybody scored on Super Bowl Sunday at Tony Roma's! ☐



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**ORANJESTAD** - The downtown marina is home of Driftwood Fishing Charters, the successful fishermen of the established seafood restaurant Driftwood in Oranjestad.

Driftwood owner Herby

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Germany's Maria Hoefl-Riesch celebrates winning the women's super-combined at the Alpine skiing world championships in Schladming, Austria, Friday, Feb. 8, 2013.

Associated Press

## Maria Hoefl-Riesch wins super-combined world title

ERIC WILLEMSSEN  
Associated Press

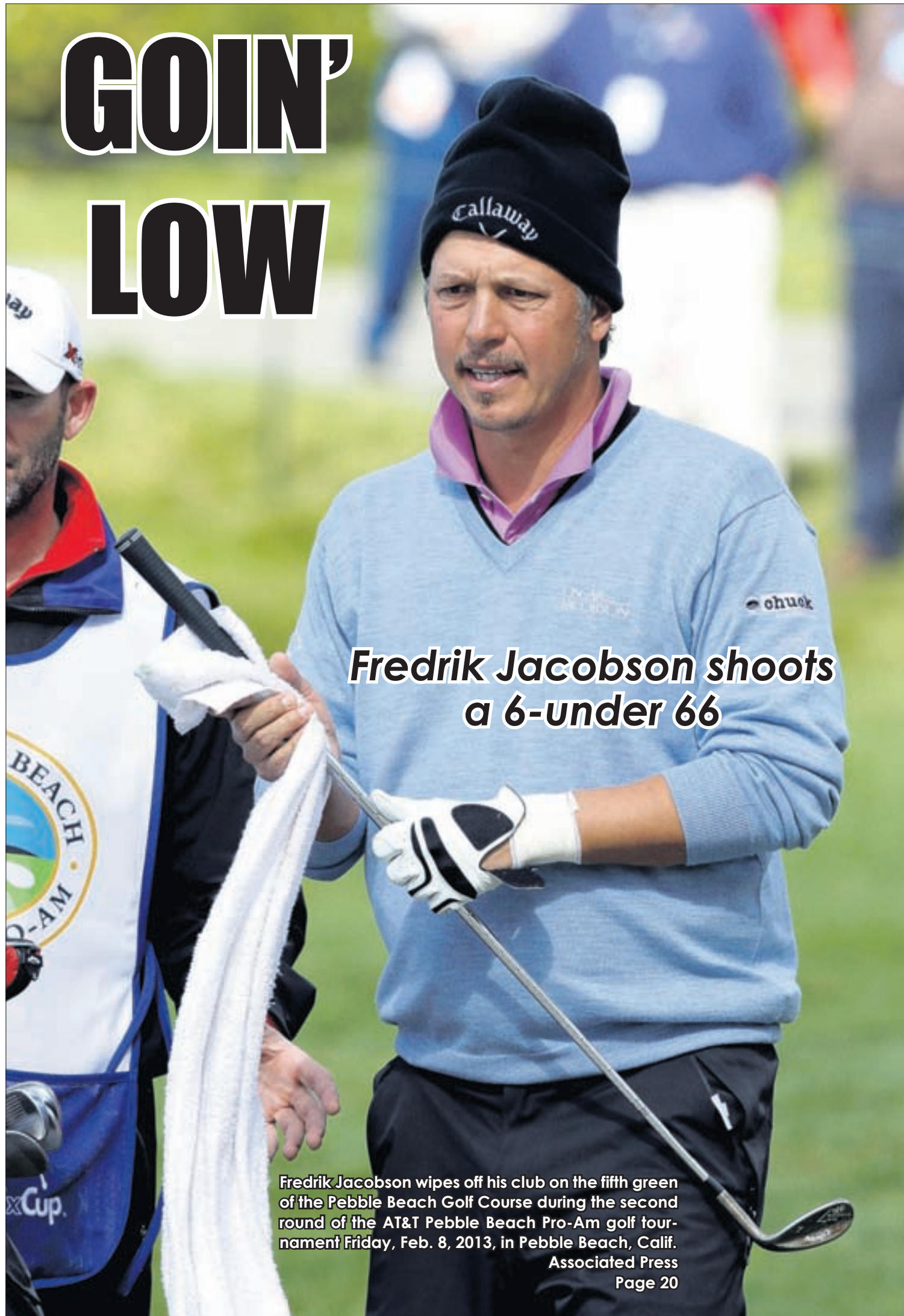
**SCHLADMING, Austria (AP)** — Olympic champion Maria Hoefl-Riesch of Germany bounced back from a disappointing World Cup season to win the super-combined at the skiing world championships on Friday.

Hoefl-Riesch was fourth after the downhill portion before posting the second-fastest time in the slalom to finish in 2 minutes, 39.92 seconds. She beat Tina Maze of Slovenia by 0.46. Former overall champion Nicole Hosp was fastest in the slalom and came one second behind in third to earn Austria a first medal at its home worlds.

"I can't believe it," Hoefl-Riesch said. "The last couple of weeks have not been easy. I had only two podiums this entire season so I wasn't coming here as a favorite. My goal was to win any medal, the color didn't matter to me."

Continued on Page 18

# GOIN' LOW



## Fredrik Jacobson shoots a 6-under 66

Fredrik Jacobson wipes off his club on the fifth green of the Pebble Beach Golf Course during the second round of the AT&T Pebble Beach Pro-Am golf tournament Friday, Feb. 8, 2013, in Pebble Beach, Calif.

Associated Press  
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# Super-combined

Continued on Page 18

Incredible, it is gold." Hoefl-Riesch appeared to enjoy a clean slalom run, but she said it wasn't. "I am surprised as my slalom didn't feel great," she said after her sixth career medal from major championships. "I was a bit too conservative. I didn't finish my last two slaloms on the World Cup so that made me cautious." Maze had shared the lead after the first run with Austria's Anna Fenninger, who straddled a gate in the slalom. Lara Gut of Switzerland, who had the same downhill time as Hoefl-Riesch, also failed to finish. "A classic mistake," said defending champion Fenninger, who was 1-2 with Maze at the worlds two years ago. "I don't train a lot of slalom so timing was always going to be difficult."

After a freezing night with clear skies and temperatures sinking to minus-15 (5 F), the course was harder and icier compared to the downhill training runs. Racers had to deal with a rougher and bumpier surface, making the turning sections of the course even tougher to master. Maze, who holds an almost insurmountable 888-point lead in the overall World Cup standings over Hoefl-Riesch, the 2011 winner, lost speed after an early mistake in her slalom, which was set by her coach Livio Magoni. The Slovenian still earned her second medal of the worlds after taking gold in Tuesday's super-G. "I am not satisfied with my slalom run," Maze said. "I held back and showed too much respect. My downhill was pretty good though."



Germany's Maria Hoefl-Riesch speeds down the course on her way to win the women's super-combined, at the Alpine skiing world championships in Schladming, Austria, Friday, Feb. 8, 2013. Associated Press

Second place and a silver medal is a super result." Maze won the only World Cup super-combined this season in December and started as a clear favorite for the world title. "I felt a lot of pressure at the start. I tried to stay calm but that wasn't easy," Maze said. "People keep asking me about the possibility of winning five medals at the world championships. That door is still open and I

won't close it." Hosp earned her fifth medal in total at world championships, but her first since 2007, the same year she won the overall title. After years of struggling with injuries, the Austrian said she finally felt like her best form was back. "I am glad I finally had a good downhill again, I finally skied like I used to do," Hosp said. "My slalom was excellent, that makes

me really happy. I am so happy it worked out great. I had some tough times in recent years. And now I have a medal." Hosp said winning Austria's first silverware at the worlds will take pressure off the team, which failed to medal in either the women's or the men's super-G. "It was really hard for us with no medals after two races," Hosp said. "The whole nation is watching these races." Lindsey Vonn won the World Cup super-combined title for the past three seasons but the American was out for the season after injuring her right knee in a crash at Tuesday's super-G. Teammate Julia Mancuso, runner-up to Hoefl-Riesch in the 2010 Olympic race, finished eighth, 3.33 seconds off the winning time. "That was a little disappointing. I was ready to have a good run," Mancuso said. "I still have that mentality that I want to try and win, so maybe I'm pushing it too hard." □

# SUPER



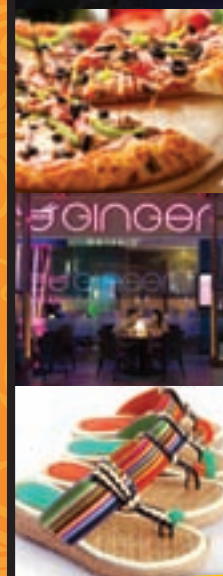
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# Snedeker in contention for 3rd straight week

DOUG FERGUSON

AP Golf Writer

PEBBLE BEACH, California (AP) —

Brandt Snedeker played bogey-free at tough Spyglass Hill on Friday for a 4-under 68, giving him a share of the lead with Ted Potter Jr. in the Pebble Beach National Pro-Am.

Hunter Mahan was among those one shot behind. With one more round before everyone has played all three courses, the leaderboard was a big traffic jam.

Snedeker, who was at 8-under 134, felt he was at an advantage because he goes to the relatively benign Pebble Beach course for the final two rounds.

And there's one other edge for his psyche — Tiger Woods isn't playing,



Brandt Snedeker hits his tee shot on the eighth hole during the second round of the AT&T Pebble Beach National Pro-Am at Spyglass Hill on February 8, 2013 in Pebble Beach, California.

Associated Press

"That's how you win out here," he said. "You keep putting yourself in position, and the more times you do, the more success you're going to have. ... I'm doing a better job this week of making my way around the golf courses and not putting myself in bad spots and getting out of tough situations very quickly."

His goal for the last two days?

"Not do anything stupid," he said. "Unfortunately, I don't do it very often."

Potter won last year in his rookie season at The Greenbrier Classic to claim a peculiar footnote in history — the only player to win a PGA Tour event in which Woods and Mickelson missed the cut. Still, his performance has been spotty. Potter missed nine out of the 12 cuts going into The Greenbrier, and then missed four out of nine cuts after his win.

"It's just a funny game like that," Potter said. "Some weeks you play really well and you get the right kicks and everything goes well. And then there are weeks you can still hit the ball well and get the bad kicks."

Fredrik Jacobson had the low round of the day, a 66 at Pebble Beach that put him in the group at 7 under with Mahan, John Merrick and Patrick Reed.

Five days after a Super Bowl loss, San Francisco 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh had reason to smile. He was leading the pro-am portion of the tournament. Harbaugh is playing with Jason Day of Australia, who made a late string of birdies for a 68 at Spyglass Hill and was two shots behind.

Mahan lost a stroke on the spongy greens. He went to knock in a short bogey putt on the par-3 seventh hole when the ball moved on him.

"It just rolled over in like a heel print or something," Mahan said. "I didn't feel like I moved it. I didn't feel like I had anything much to do with it moving. It's just a rub of the green, so had to go back and take a penalty." □

and defending champion Phil Mickelson is six shots behind.

Snedeker has played so well this year that he is leading the FedEx Cup standings without having won. He was runner-up the past two weeks: four shots behind Woods at Torrey Pines, and then four shots behind Mickelson in the Phoenix Open.

"Keep running into guys who are or who are going to be in the Hall of Fame," Snedeker said at the start of the week.

Mickelson, going after a record-tying fifth win in the event, was easing his way into contention until he made three bogeys in a four-hole stretch along the ocean at Spyglass Hill for a 71.

Snedeker made it look easy at Spyglass, even though the day began in rugged conditions with a light rain and low temperatures. He hit a towering 8-iron on the downhill, par-3 12th hole that plopped 3 feet next to the cup for his first birdie. He added a pair of simple up-and-down birdies on the par 5s and then closed out a solid day with an 8-iron to 5 feet on the eighth hole.

Snedeker sees the upside of his two second-place finishes: At least he's giving himself a chance.

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### NBA Capsules

## Celtics rout Lakers 116-95 for sixth straight win

**The Associated Press**

**BOSTON (AP)** — Paul Pierce scored 24 points and led a third-quarter surge as the Boston Celtics routed the Los Angeles Lakers 116-95 on Thursday, improving to 6-0 since losing point guard Rajon Rondo for the season with a torn knee ligament. The Lakers had cut a 58-44 halftime deficit to 72-61 with 5:07 left in the third quarter. Then the Celtics went on a 23-8 run and led 95-69 going into the fourth. Pierce started the surge with a three-point play and ended it with a 3-pointer with 41 seconds left, giving him 12 points in the period. Kobe Bryant scored 27 to

lead the Lakers, who suffered their worst loss of the season despite the return of Dwight Howard after he missed three games with a sore right shoulder.

The win was Boston's biggest of the season.

The Lakers had won six of their previous seven games, including all three without Howard, and had moved three games behind the Houston Rockets for the eighth and final playoff spot in the West.

NUGGETS 128, BULLS 96

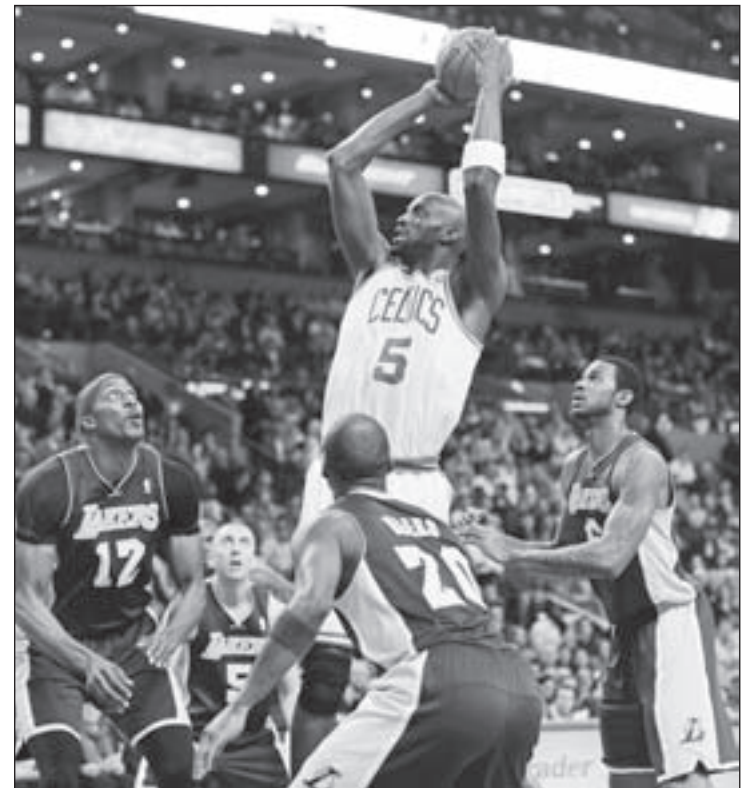
**DENVER (AP)** — Kenneth Faried celebrated his invitation to the league's annual slam dunk contest with a series of rim-rattling, crowd-

pleasing jams that helped Denver extend its winning streak to eight games.

Faried finished with 21 points and 12 rebounds in 26 minutes as the Nuggets won for the 15th time in 18 games since Jan. 1.

Wilson Chandler added 24 points in just 19 minutes as the Nuggets made quick work of a stingy Bulls team that came in yielding just 91 points a game but watched Denver pour in 100 by the time the third quarter was over.

Carlos Boozer led Chicago's starters with 18 points and Daequan Cook had 19 points off the bench. □



Boston Celtics forward Kevin Garnett (5) shoots while surrounded by Los Angeles Lakers during the first half of an NBA basketball game in Boston, Thursday, Feb. 7, 2013.

Associated Press

## Felix Hernandez to skip WBC with Venezuela

**CARACAS, Venezuela (AP)** —

Felix Hernandez says he won't pitch for Venezuela in the upcoming World Baseball Classic. The Seattle Mariners ace says in an interview with the Venezuelan sports newspaper Lider that it was a difficult decision to sit out. But he says he should think of his future and denied being influenced by any type of pressure from the Mariners.

Hernandez and the Mariners are working on a \$175 million, seven-year contract that would make him the highest-paid pitcher in baseball.

Wilfredo Polidor, who represents the 2010 AL Cy Young Award winner, told Lider earlier on Friday that the Mariners think if Hernandez were to go to the WBC it would be "a very big risk for the negotiations." □



In this Aug. 15, 2012, file photo, Seattle Mariners pitcher Felix Hernandez reacts after throwing a perfect game against the Tampa Bay Rays in Seattle.

Associated Press

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## Personal Health: Getting effective addiction treatment

JANE E. BRODY

© 2013 New York Times

Countless people addicted to drugs, alcohol or both have managed to get clean and stay clean with the help of organizations like Alcoholics Anonymous or the thousands of residential and outpatient clinics devoted to treating addiction.

But if you have failed one or more times to achieve lasting sobriety after rehab, perhaps after spending tens of thousands of dollars, you're not alone. And chances are, it's not your fault. Of the 23.5 million teenagers and adults addicted to alcohol or drugs, only about 1 in 10 gets treatment, which too often fails to keep them drug-free. According to recent examinations of treatment programs, most are rooted in outdated methods rather than newer approaches shown in scientific studies to be more effective.

People typically do more research when shopping for a new car than when seeking treatment for addiction. A groundbreaking report published last year by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University concluded that "the vast majority of people in need of addiction treatment do not receive anything that approximates evidence-based care." The Columbia report found that most addiction treatment providers are not medical professionals and are not equipped with the knowledge, skills or credentials needed to provide the full range of evidence-based services, including medication and psycho-social therapy. The authors suggested that such insufficient care could be considered "a form of medical malpractice."

The failings of many treatment programs – and the comprehensive therapies that have been scientifically validated but remain vastly underused – are described in an eye-opening new book, "Inside Rehab," by Anne M. Fletcher, a

science writer whose previous books include the highly acclaimed "Sober for Good."

"There are exceptions, but of the many thousands of treatment programs out there, most use exactly the same kind of treatment you would have received in 1950, not modern scientific approaches," A. Thomas McLellan, co-founder of the Treatment Research Institute in Philadelphia, told Fletcher.

In an interview, Fletcher said she wanted to inform



**According to recent examinations of treatment programs, most addiction treatments are rooted in outdated methods rather than newer approaches shown in scientific studies to be more effective.**

(Ken Orvidas/The New York Times)

consumers "about science-based practices that should form the basis of addiction treatment" and explode some of the myths surrounding it.

One such myth is the belief that most addicts need to go to a rehab center.

"The truth is that most people recover (1) completely on their own, (2) by attending self-help groups, and/or (3) by seeing a counselor or therapist individually," she writes. Often, Fletcher found, low-cost, publicly funded clinics have better-qualified therapists and better outcomes than the high-end residential centers typically used by celebrities. Contrary to the 30-day stint typical of inpatient rehab, "people with serious substance abuse disorders commonly require care for months or even years," she writes. "The short-term fix mental-

ity partially explains why so many people go back to their old habits."

Dr. Mark Willenbring, a former director of treatment and recovery research at the National Institute for Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism, said in an interview, "You don't treat a chronic illness for four weeks and then send the patient to a support group. People with a chronic form of addiction need multimodal treatment that is individualized and offered continuously or intermittently for as long as they need it."

Willenbring is especially distressed about patients who are treated for opioid addiction, then relapse in part because they are not given maintenance therapy with the drug Suboxone. "We have some pretty good drugs to help people with addiction problems, but doctors don't know how to use them," he said. "The 12-step community doesn't want to use relapse-prevention medication because they view it as a crutch." Before committing to a treatment program, Fletcher urges prospective clients or their families to do their homework. The first step, she said, is to get an independent assessment of the need for treatment, as well as the kind of treatment needed, by an expert who is not affiliated with the program you are considering.

Check on the credentials of the program's personnel, who should have "at least a master's degree," Fletcher said. If the therapist is a physician, he or she should be certified by the American Board of Addiction Medicine. Does the facility's approach to treatment fit with your beliefs and values? If a 12-step program like AA is not right for you, don't choose it just because it is well known. Meet with the therapist who will treat you and ask what your treatment plan will be. "It should be more than movies, lectures or three-hour classes three times a week," Fletcher said. □

## Grief has no timeline

Joan Wickersham

© The New York Times

Via The Boston Globe

Recently at a cocktail party, I met a woman whose husband had died about four years ago. She mentioned him a lot. Not monologues, but frequent references to him – things he'd said, jokes he'd made, his foibles, his likes and dislikes. Some of it was in the past tense and some in the present. Theirs had been a long marriage – over 30 years – and clearly it was still going on.

Here's another story. A woman I know, also happily married for many decades, was devastated by her husband's death from cancer. A year later, though still missing her husband, she was surprised to find herself falling deeply in love with an old family friend.

Grief is a lot weirder than we think. It doesn't follow a logical course or conform to any predictable timetable. Yet we persist in making comments about how other people are doing it. And worse, we are constantly, secretly convinced that because our own grief doesn't proceed according to our expectations, we must be doing it wrong.

It's time to get over it. Time to move on. Time to get on with your life. We say these things to and about one another all the time. And we say them to ourselves. "I don't seem to be able to get over this," a friend said of her father's suicide, which happened just over a year ago. "That's because it's so recent," I said.

She looked relieved – oh, good, someone got it, she wasn't crazy – and dismayed: She'd been hoping that maybe it would be over soon. Like a lot of other people, I was appalled when I read about the American Psychiatric Association's proposal to identify something called "complicated grief disorder" – intense, acute grief that persists for more than about six months af-

ter bereavement. The rationale is that since most people get over a death in six months (um, excuse me, but who are these people?), the new diagnosis would allow people who struggle with prolonged grief to get treatment. "Get treatment" presumably means "get insurance to pay for treatment." Do we really need to pathologize grief and stigmatize mourners in order to pierce the obtuse heart (or heartlessness) of an insurance company?

I asked a psychiatrist to translate the term "intense, acute grief." He said, "Miss Havisham." I understood: One end of the spectrum would be someone like the Dickens character, jilted by her fiancé, who spends her life in her tattered, yellowed wedding dress, brooding over the rotten remains of the wedding feast and grieving her lost love by punishing everyone else. But every grief is different, just as every death and every mourner is different. When my father killed himself in 1991, I sort of kept functioning, and I sort of didn't. I took care of my son, kept the house going, met my writing deadlines. I also stopped sleeping. I gained 30 pounds. I was numb, and it went on for years. It wouldn't have helped to be told I had a disorder, or to have what I was feeling labeled as "complicated grief." I knew damn well it was complicated. I didn't need anyone judging how long it was taking me to get over it. What I needed was the people – including the psychiatrist – who said, "Of course." When my mother died four years ago, after a long illness, the grief was different. It was hard and sad, but it felt straightforward: I missed her.

We shouldn't pathologize grief; we should let it be whatever it is. I look around at friends who've had losses, and I see how long, and how powerfully, many continue to feel grief years later. □



# Watson's medical expertise offered commercially

**JIM FITZGERALD**

Associated Press Writer  
WHITE PLAINS, New York (AP) — The Watson supercomputer is graduating from its medical residency and is being offered commercially to doctors and health insurance companies, IBM said Friday.

IBM Corp., the health insurer WellPoint Inc. and Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center announced two Watson-based applications — one to help diagnose and treat lung cancer and one to help manage health insurance decisions and claims.

Both applications take advantage of the speed, huge database and language skill the computer demonstrated in defeating the best human "Jeopardy!" players on television two years ago.

Armonk-based IBM said Watson has improved its performance by 240 percent since the "Jeopardy!" win.

In both applications, doctors or insurance company workers will access Watson through a tablet or computer. Watson will quickly compare a patient's medi-



In this photo provided by International Business Machines, (IBM) Mark Kris, MD, Chief of Thoracic Oncology, Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center, left, and Manoj Saxena, IBM General Manager, Watson Solutions, demonstrate a tablet which will be used by both doctors and health insurance to access medical applications on IBM's "Watson" computer system, Friday, Feb. 8, 2013 in Armonk, N.Y.

cal records to what it has learned and make several recommendations in decreasing order of confidence.

In the cancer program, the computer will be considering what treatment is most likely to succeed. In the insurance program, it will consider what treatment

should be authorized for payment.

Watson (actually named for IBM founder and not the Sherlock Holmes' friend, Dr. Watson) has been trained in medicine through pilot programs at Indianapolis-based WellPoint and at Sloan-Kettering in New

York.

Manoj Saxena, an IBM general manager, said the supercomputer has ingested 1,500 lung cancer cases from Sloan-Kettering records, plus 2 million pages of text from journals, textbooks and treatment guidelines.

It also learned "like a

medical student," by being corrected when it was questioned by doctors and came up with wrong answers, Saxena said in an interview. "Watson is not making the decisions" on treatment or authorization, Saxena said. "It is essentially reducing the effort for doctors and nurses by going through thousands of pages of information for each case."

The lung cancer program is being adopted by two medical groups, the Maine Center for Cancer Medicine and WestMed in New York's Westchester County. Saxena said it should be running at both groups by next month.

WellPoint itself is already using the insurance application in Indiana, Kentucky, Ohio and Wisconsin. It will be selling both applications — at prices still to be negotiated — and will compensate IBM under a contract between the two companies, an IBM spokeswoman said. WellPoint said using Watson should not increase insurance premiums because of savings from waste and errors. □

Associated Press

## HP sets labor guidelines in for Chinese suppliers

**SAN FRANCISCO (AP)** — Hewlett-Packard Co., the world's largest personal computer maker, is vowing to crack down on its Chinese suppliers in an effort to reduce the use of low-paid student interns and other temporary workers. The guidelines unveiled Friday are the latest attempt by a major U.S. technology company to weed out labor abuses at Chinese factories that manufacture the gadgets for an Internet-connected world.

HP, which is based in Palo Alto, California, said its new standards are meant to ensure that its Chinese suppliers don't lean too heavily on student interns and temporary workers as a way to

save money. The company says it wants to protect workers' rights when they are hired.

The new standards come a few months after Hon Hai Precision Industry Co., a major China manufacturer better known as Foxconn, acknowledged it has hired interns as young as 14.

Both HP and Apple Inc., the maker of iPhones, iPads and Mac computers, rely on Foxconn to make some of their products.

Apple, which is based in Cupertino, California, also has been trying to reform the labor practices at Foxconn and other Chinese suppliers in recent years in response to scathing criticism about the inhumane

treatment of the workers making devices that have become status symbols as well as multi-purpose tools for communicating, reading, watching video and taking pictures.

Among other things, HP said it hopes its rules will prod its Chinese suppliers to employ mostly full-time workers instead of exploiting interns and temporary employees. When interns and temps are used, HP said it will insist they aren't forced to remain on the job against their will and have the right to file grievances. The company also pledged to ensure intern hours are kept well below the legal limit.

To show it is serious, HP in-



A worker checks parts of a laptop on a Hewlett-Packard assembly line in Chongqing, China.

Gilles Sabrie for The New York Times

tends to review the labor practices at its Chinese suppliers more frequently. HP is a Silicon Valley pioneer whose late founders, William Hewlett and David Packard, become renowned for their egalitarian policies and generous benefits. The worker-friendly culture that they fostered become known as "The HP Way" — a template that has steered the views of

many other Silicon Valley companies, including Apple, whose late founder, Steve Jobs, once briefly worked at HP.

In recent years, though, HP has alienated some of its 332,000 employees with mass layoffs and other cost-cutting measures aimed at boosting its profits. The company eliminated nearly 18,000 jobs during its past fiscal year.



## China's auto sales up 46% for January

**BEIJING (AP)** — China's auto sales rose 46 percent in January to a monthly record on strong demand for SUVs in pre-Lunar New Year shopping, an industry group reported Friday. Customers bought just over 2 million vehicles last month in China, the biggest auto market by number of vehicles sold, according to the China Association of Automobile Manufacturers. The figures probably were boosted as customers hurried to finish purchases before businesses closed for next week's Lunar New Year holiday. That is likely to depress February sales. Global automakers are looking to China to drive revenues amid weakness elsewhere. But double-digit sales growth slowed to 7.1 percent last year amid an economic slump and ownership restrictions imposed by some cities to curb traffic and smog. In January, sales of sport utility vehicles rose 90.5 percent to 240,700 while those of basic passenger vehicles rose 48.9 percent to just under 1.2 million, according to the CAAM. Sales of commercial vehicles lagged those of passenger cars. The group said truck sales overall declined 41.4 percent while those of larger trucks declined 28.5 percent. General Motors Co. said earlier its sales of GM-brand vehicles in China rose 26 percent in January to a monthly record of 310,765. Ford Motor Co. said sales of Ford-brand vehicles, including imports, rose 135 percent to 44,439 vehicles. Germany's BMW Group said sales of its luxury sedans rose 14.7 percent to 30,397 while sales by its MINI unit rose 20.3 percent to 1,800 vehicles. Japanese automakers have suffered amid tensions between Beijing and Tokyo over ownership of a group of uninhabited islands. Japan's Nissan Motor Co. said its January sales rose 22.2 percent to 115,700 vehicles, a rebound from a 5.3 percent contraction last year. □

## Asia weakness swallowing McDonald's sales

**CANDICE CHOI**

**AP Food Industry Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — McDonald's says a key sales figure dropped again in January as the world's biggest hamburger chain faced ongoing weakness in Japan and sales in China were hurt by a food scare and the timing of a holiday.

The Oak Brook, Illinois-based company said

global sales at restaurants open at least 13 months dropped 1.9 percent for the month. The figure is a key metric because it strips out the volatility of newly opened and closed locations.

After years of outperforming rivals, McDonald's has been struggling amid intensifying competition and challenging economic

conditions around the world. Late last year, the company ousted the head of its U.S. business after the sales figure dropped for the first time in nearly a decade. CEO Don Thompson, who took the top spot this summer, has vowed to add business by focusing on value while planning a series of new limited-time offers to attract customers. But Thompson also warned last month that sales were trending negative for January.

In the region encompassing Asia, the Middle East and Africa, McDonald's said its sales sank 9.5 percent in January. McDonald's has been struggling in Japan, where it says customers have been eating at home more often since the earthquake and tsunami in 2011.

In China, the company said the timing of Chinese

New Year hurt results. But another factor was the ongoing wariness among diners after reports on Chinese television that chicken producers were ignoring regulators and giving the birds unapproved levels of antibiotics. Yum Brands, which owns KFC and is the biggest Western chain in the country, has been slammed by the reports. Yum expects its sales in China to fall by 25 percent in the first quarter. In Europe, McDonald's biggest market, sales fell 2.1 percent as Germany and France dragged down results. The company said it remains focused on enhanced value and keeping stores open longer in the region.

In the U.S., McDonald's said the figure edged up 0.9 percent. The addition of the Grilled Onion Cheddar burger to the Dollar Menu boosted results. □



A bustling McDonald's in Tokyo, Japan.

(Handout Photo)

## US growth in Q4 likely stronger on exports

**C. S. RUGABER**

**AP Economics Writer**

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — The U.S. trade deficit narrowed sharply in December because exports rose while oil imports plummeted. The smaller trade gap means the economy almost surely grew in the October-December quarter — an improvement from the government's estimate last week that it shrank in the final months of 2012. The trade deficit fell nearly 21 percent in December from November to \$38.6 billion, the Commerce Department said Friday. That's the smallest in nearly three years. Exports rose 2.1 percent to \$186.4 billion. Exports of oil and other petroleum products rose to the highest level on record. Overseas shipments of agriculture goods and aircraft also increased. Imports shrank 2.7 percent to \$224.9 billion. Oil imports plunged to 223 billion barrels, the fewest since February 1997. "All this is encouraging and ... it now looks like exports will continue to strengthen as the year goes on," said

Paul Ashworth, an economist at Capital Economics. A survey of U.S. manufacturers, released last week, showed that export orders grew in January for the second straight month.

A narrower trade gap boosts growth because it means U.S. companies

growth in the October-December quarter showed a contraction at an annual rate of 0.1 percent. The December trade deficit figures were not available when the government reported its estimate last week. Jim O'Sullivan, chief U.S. economist at High Fre-

annual rate of 0.6 percent. The government will issue its second estimate for fourth-quarter growth on Feb. 28. Sluggish restocking by companies and deep cuts in defense spending are expected to keep growth at the end of last year weak. The trade deficit also narrowed for all of last year, shrinking 3.5 percent to \$540.4 billion.

Many economists believe that trade will give the economy a small lift in 2013. That forecast is based on an assumption that the European debt crisis will stabilize, helping boost U.S. exports to that region, and economic growth in Asia will continue to rebound.

The politically sensitive trade deficit with China rose to \$315.1 billion last year, the largest on record with any country. That could add to pressure on the Obama administration and Congress to take a harder line on China's trade practices. Some U.S. manufacturers contend that China keeps the value of its currency artificially low to make its exports to the U.S. cheaper. □



The container ship HS Bach docked at the Port of Miami. The trade deficit fell nearly 21% in December from November to \$38.6 billion, the Commerce Department said Friday, due to gains in exports and falling oil imports.

(AP Photo/Wilfredo Lee)

earned more from overseas sales while consumers and businesses spent less on foreign products. Fewer exports were one of the reasons the government's first estimate of economic

quency Economics, estimates the improved trade picture will add 0.7 percentage point to economic growth in the October-December quarter. That would show growth at an



## US wholesale stockpiles dip in December

C. S. RUGABER

AP Economics Writer

**WASHINGTON (AP)** — U.S. wholesalers cut their stockpiles slightly in December while their sales were unchanged, suggesting businesses were cautious at the end of a weak quarter. The Commerce Department said Friday that wholesale business stockpiles dipped 0.1 percent in December from November to \$497.7 billion. That followed a 0.4 percent rise the previous month. Inventories of furniture and automotive goods fell by the most in more than three years. Farm product stockpiles also dropped sharply, likely reflecting the impact of this summer's drought in the Midwest.

Less restocking reduces factory production, which slows economic growth. A big decline in restocking was a major reason the government estimated last week that the economy shrank in the October-December quarter.

Separately, the Commerce Department said the U.S. trade deficit narrowed sharply in December because exports rose while oil imports plummeted. The smaller trade gap means the economy almost surely grew in the October-December quarter — an improvement from the government's initial estimate last week. □

# S&P 500 hits five-year high, extends rally

STEVE ROTHWELL

AP Business Writer

**NEW YORK (AP)** — The Standard and Poor's 500 edged up to a five-year high Friday, extending a rally that started in January.

The S&P 500 rose 8.54 points to 1,517.93, closing 0.3 percent up for the week. The index is at its highest since November 2007 and has advanced for six weeks, the longest streak of gains since August.

The Dow Jones industrial average rose 48.92 points, or 0.4 percent, to 13,992.97. The Nasdaq composite climbed 28.74 points, or 0.9 percent, to finish the week at 3,193.87.

The Dow had its best January in almost two decades, and closed above 14,000 on Feb. 1 for the first time since 2007. The index is up 6.8 percent so far this year; the S&P 500 is up 6.4 percent.

A last-minute budget deal in Washington to avoid the "fiscal cliff" of tax hikes and spending cuts helped power the rally, as did as optimism about the housing sector and gradual improvements in the jobs market.

The S&P 500 finished the week higher despite logging its biggest daily decline in almost three months Monday following worrying news from Europe.

The index fell 1.2 percent that day as bond yields in Spain and Italy rose on

concern that the region's politicians will drag Europe back into crisis. European Central Bank President Mario Draghi's cautious comments about the region's economy also weighed on markets Thursday.

"Everybody seems to be saying this market needs to correct," said Robert Pavlik, chief market strategist at Banyan Partners. "Nobody wants to be in it, but

meted. The smaller trade gap means the economy likely performed better in the final three months of last year than first reported last week.

"The trade balance was surprisingly very good," said Phil Orlando, chief market strategist at Federated Investors.

The government estimated that the U.S. economy contracted at an annual rate

its quarterly revenue grew for the first time in eight years, helped by strength in worldwide advertising.

Currently, analysts are expecting earnings for the fourth quarter of 2012 to rise 6.5 percent for S&P 500 companies, according to data from S&P Capital I&Q. That's an increase from the 2.4 percent growth rate recorded for the preceding quarter.

Stocks have benefited as investors poured a net \$4.1 billion into stock mutual funds since the start of the year, according to data provided by Lipper.

"I'm very encouraged by the fact, that finally, for the first time in many years, individual investors seem to be participating in this," said David Kelly, chief global strategist at J.P. Morgan Funds.

The yield on the 10-year note, which moves inversely to its price, fell one basis point to 1.95 percent.

Trading volume was light as Wall Street braced for what is forecast to be the largest winter storm in more than a year. Up to 2 feet of snow forecast along the densely populated Interstate 95 corridor from the New York City area to Boston and beyond.

Among other stocks making big moves:

— Microchip Technology, a semiconductor maker, jumped \$2.45, or 7.2 percent, to \$36.39 after its earnings beat estimates. □



Specialist Gregg Maloney, left, and trader Tom Ferrigno work on the floor of the New York Stock Exchange Friday, Feb. 8, 2013. (AP Photo/Richard Drew)

nobody wants to be out of it."

Largely positive corporate earnings reports and a report that showed that the U.S. trade deficit narrowed sharply in December provided more fuel for the market's advance Friday.

The trade deficit fell nearly 21 percent in December from November to \$38.6 billion, the smallest in nearly three years, as exports rose while oil imports plum-

of 0.1 percent in the last three months of 2012. Orlando estimates that may now be revised to growth of 0.5 percent.

Shares of LinkedIn, the online professional networking service, jumped \$26.39, or 21.3 percent, to \$150.40 after the company reported fourth-quarter results late Thursday that beat analysts' forecasts. AOL soared \$2.31 to \$33.72 after the Internet company said

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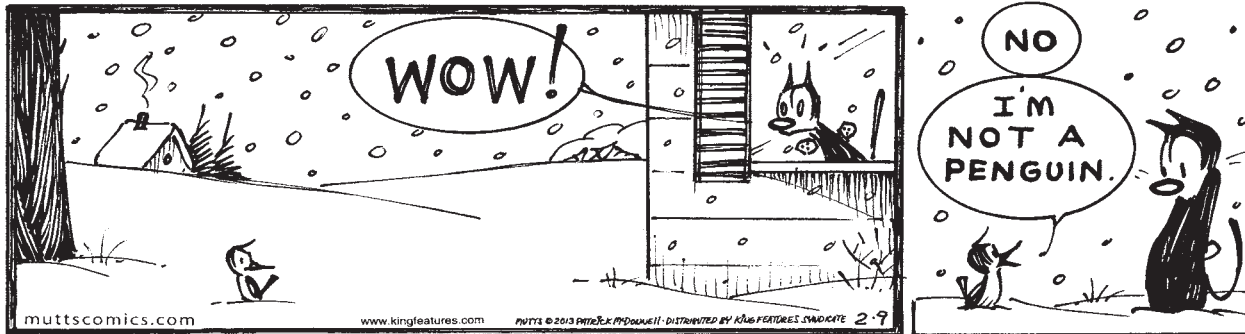
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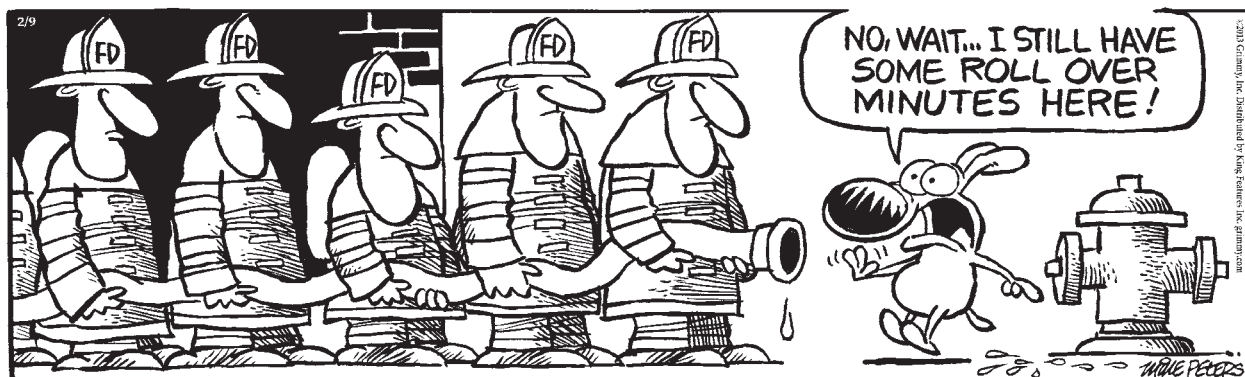
6 Chix



Blondie



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Baby Blues



Zits



Conceptis Sudoku

1			9	2			5
	7					8	
				1			
9		4					6
			4	8	7		
8						1	2
			1				
	9					3	
2			6	9			4

Difficulty Level ★★★★★

2/09

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Sunday.

Yesterday's puzzle answer

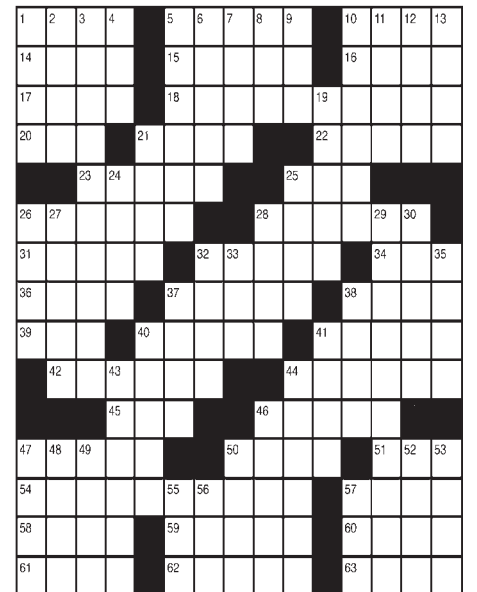
5	8	3	6	1	9	7	4	2
2	6	1	4	7	3	9	5	8
7	9	4	2	8	5	3	6	1
8	3	2	1	4	6	5	9	7
4	5	7	3	9	8	2	1	6
9	1	6	7	5	2	4	8	3
1	4	8	9	3	7	6	2	5
6	7	9	5	2	1	8	3	4
3	2	5	8	6	4	1	7	9

ACROSS

- Sing the praises of
- Leftover piece
- Thick slice
- Twiddling one's thumbs
- "To \_\_ own self be true"
- Bedtime on a school night, perhaps
- Learn by \_\_; memorize
- Held back
- Go astray
- Slipped \_\_; back problem
- Gushes forth
- Skilled
- Cleopatra's killer
- James and Jackie
- Minded
- Great pain
- \_\_ off; calms down after being angry
- Brewer's tub
- Accurate
- Vine fruit
- Female horse
- Lieberman or Feinstein: abbr.
- Heroic deeds
- Indianapolis football team
- Trimming a lawn's border
- Hearty
- Frothy drink
- Raft wood
- Mountainside
- Magician's stick
- Afternoon hour
- Entrepreneur
- Roaring beast
- Microwave, e.g.
- Strong point
- Days of \_\_; yesteryear
- Orangey drink
- Twilled fabric
- Discontinues

DOWN

- Grow weary
- SAT, for one



Created by Jacqueline E. Mathews

2/9/13

Friday's Puzzle Solved

DUD	PEACE	ALMA
ITEM	AARON	WOOL
DANA	TREAD	ADAM
HYPHENATE	KENS	
PANS	ATE	
ADRIFT	JUVENILE	
COUNT	MASON	REV
RING	TIMER	TOME
ELI	SANER	TENOR
SYNOPSIS	DOESNT	
YAM	POEM	
IBIS	ABSURDITY	
LOOT	NEWS	NOON
LATE	IRATE	GAGA
STAR	ANTS	DAB

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2/9/13

- Autry or Wilder
- Unruly crowds
- mignon
- Freezing
- Staring
- openmouthed
- Talked wildly
- Sew lightly
- Dundee native
- Volcano output
- Not locked
- Telegram
- In a \_\_; briefly
- Individuals
- Fore and \_\_
- Depressed
- Caustic soap ingredient



## Accused witch killed in Papua New Guinea

PORT MORESBY, Papua New Guinea (AP) — A mob stripped, tortured and bound a woman accused of witchcraft, then burned her alive in front of hundreds of horrified witnesses in a Papua New Guinea town, police said. It was the latest sorcery-related killing in this South Pacific island nation.

Bystanders, including many children, watched and some took photographs of Wednesday's brutal slaying.

Grisly pictures were published on the front pages of the country's two largest newspapers, The National and the Post-Courier, while the prime minister, police and diplomats condemned the killing.

In rural Papua New Guinea, witchcraft is often blamed for unexplained misfortunes.

Sorcery has traditionally been countered by sorcery, but responses to allegations of witchcraft have become increasingly violent in recent years.

Kepari Leniata, a 20-year-old mother, had been accused of sorcery by relatives of a 6-year-old boy who died in a hospital on Tuesday.

She was tortured with a hot iron rod, bound, doused in gasoline, and then set alight on a pile of car tires and trash in the Western Highlands provincial capital of Mount Hagen, national police spokesman Dominic Kakas said. □

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Savaneta	584-7000
San Nicolas	584-5000

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Fire Dept.	115
Fire Dept. II	582-1108
Police Tipline	11141
Hospital	527-4000

### Oranjestad

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Police	582-4000

### San Nicolas

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Police Station	584-5000
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Jet Blue	Tel: 588-2244
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# 150-foot asteroid will buzz Earth, no need to duck

MARCIA DUNN

AP Aerospace Writer

CAPE CANAVERAL, Florida (AP) —

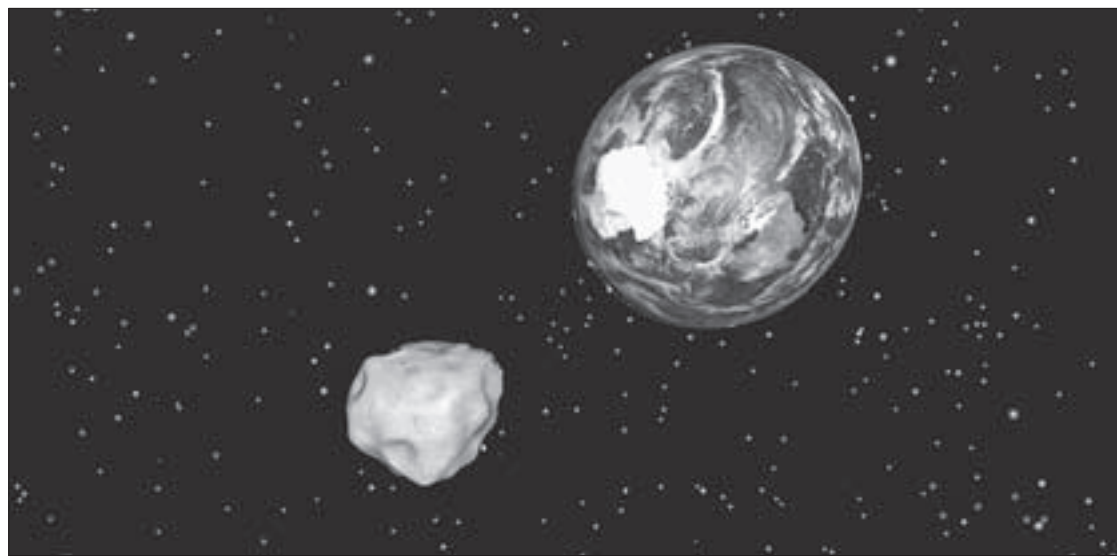
A 150-foot(45-meter)-wide asteroid will come remarkably close to Earth next week, even closer than high-flying communication and weather satellites. It will be the nearest known flyby for an object of this size.

But don't worry. Scientists promise the megarock will be at least 17,100 miles (27,518 kilometers) away when it zips past next Friday.

"No Earth impact is possible," Donald Yeomans, manager of NASA's Near-Earth Object program at Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, said Thursday.

Even the chance of an asteroid-satellite run-in is extremely remote, Yeomans and other scientists noted. A few hundred satellites orbit at 22,300 miles (35,886 kilometers), higher than the asteroid's path, although operators are being warned about the incoming object for tracking purposes.

"No one has raised a red flag, nor will they," Yeomans told reporters. "I cer-



This image provided by NASA/JPL-Caltech shows a simulation of asteroid 2012 DA14 approaching from the south as it passes through the Earth-moon system on Feb. 15, 2013. Associated Press

tainly don't anticipate any problems whatsoever." Impossible to see with the naked eye, the asteroid is considered small as these things go. By contrast, the one that took out the dinosaurs 65 million years ago was 6 miles (9.6 kilometers) wide.

Yet Asteroid 2012 DA14, as it's known for its discovery date, still could pack a wallop.

If it impacted Earth — which it won't, scientists were quick to add Thursday — it would release the energy equivalent of 2.4 million tons of TNT and wipe

out 750 square miles (1,942 square kilometers). That's what happened in Siberia in 1908, when forest land around the Tunguska River was flattened by a slightly smaller asteroid that exploded about five miles above ground.

The likelihood of something this size striking Earth is once in every 1,200 years. A close, harmless encounter like this is thought to occur every 40 years.

The bulk of the solar system's asteroids are located between the orbits of Mars and Jupiter, and remain stable there for bil-

lions of years. Some occasionally pop out, though, into Earth's neighborhood. The closest approach of this one will occur next Friday afternoon, Eastern time, over Indonesia.

There won't be much of a show. The asteroid will zip by at 17,400 mph (28,000 kph). That's roughly eight times faster than a bullet from a high-speed rifle.

The asteroid will be invisible to the naked eye and even with binoculars and telescopes will appear as a small point of light. The prime viewing locations will be in Asia, Australia and eastern Europe.

Observers in the U.S. can pretty much forget it. Astronomers using NASA's deep-space antenna in California's Mojave Desert will have to wait eight hours after the closest approach to capture radar images.

Scientists welcome whatever pictures they get. The asteroid offers a unique opportunity to observe something this big and close, and any new knowledge will help if and when another killer asteroid is headed Earth's way.

The close approach also highlights the need to keep track of what's out there, if for no other reason than to protect the planet.

NASA's current count of near-Earth objects: just short of 10,000, the result of a concentrated effort for the past 15 years. That's thought to represent less than 10 percent of the objects out there.

No one has ruled out a serious Earth impact, although the probability is said to be extremely low.

"We don't have all the money in the world to do this kind of work" for tracking and potentially deflecting asteroids, said Lindley Johnson, an executive with the Near-Earth Object observations program in Washington.

Indeed, when asked about NASA's plans to send astronauts to an asteroid in the decades ahead, as outlined a few years ago by President Barack Obama, Johnson said the space agency is looking at a number of options for human explorations.

One of the more immediate steps, planned for 2016, is the launch of a spacecraft to fly to a much bigger asteroid, collect samples and return them to Earth in 2023.

As for Asteroid 2012 DA14 — discovered last year by astronomers in Spain — scientists suspect it's made of silicate rock, but aren't sure. Its shape and precise size also are mysteries.

What they do know with certainty:

"This object's orbit is so well known that there's no chance of a collision," Yeomans repeated during Thursday's news conference. Its close approach, in fact, will alter its orbit around the sun in such a way as to keep it out of Earth's neighborhood, at least in the foreseeable future, Yeomans said.

Johnson anticipates no "sky is falling thing" related to next week's flyby. He and other scientists urged journalists to keep the close encounter in perspective.

"Space rocks hit the Earth's atmosphere on a daily basis. Basketball-size objects come in daily. Volkswagen-size objects come in every couple of weeks," Yeomans said.

The grand total of stuff hitting the atmosphere every day? "About 100 tons," according to Yeoman, though most of it arrives harmlessly as sand-sized particles. □

## Mars rover Curiosity drills hole in rock in a test



This image provided by NASA shows the aftermath of a test drill by the Curiosity rover on Mars. Associated Press

PASADENA, Calif. (AP) — drilled a test hole in a Martian rock in preparation for

the real thing.

Images released Thursday by NASA showed a ring of powder that was generated by the drill at the end of the rover's robotic arm. The hole measured less than an inch (2 ½ centimeters) deep.

Scientists planned to analyze the latest activity — dubbed a "mini drill test" — before commanding Curiosity to drill deeper. One of its major tasks is to drill into a rock and transfer the ground-up powder to its onboard laboratories for analysis — a first on Mars. Curiosity landed in an ancient crater near the Martian equator last year on a mission to gauge whether environmental conditions were favorable for microbes. □

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# Damon's fracking drama gets run at Berlin prize



Actor Matt Damon takes a picture with his phone prior the press conference for the film *Promised Land* at the 63rd edition of the Berlinale, International Film Festival in Berlin, Friday, Feb. 8, 2013. Associated Press

**BERLIN (AP)** — Matt Damon hopes “*Promised Land*,” his drama on the divisive practice of fracking, will win over international critics, despite a U.S. reception that disappointed the actor.

The movie on shale gas drilling, directed by Gus Van Sant and with a script written by Damon and co-star John Krasinski, has its international premiere Friday at the Berlin film festival. It is one of 19 films running for the Golden Bear award. In the United States, where the movie opened last month, “it didn’t get the reception that I would have hoped for, but that happens sometimes,” Damon told reporters. “Sometimes people find movies later on.”

Damon stars as a salesman persuading inhabitants of a small town to sell a big energy firm the right to extract gas from beneath their farmland. Hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, frees natural gas

from shale deep underground by injecting a well with chemically treated water and sand. Supporters say it can be an economic boon to rural areas, but critics say it can pollute groundwater.

The film was shot in western Pennsylvania. Damon said the movie crew heard strong opinions there from both backers and detractors of fracking.

“We didn’t want the film to be a judgment on what to do,” Damon insisted.

“What we really wanted to do was make a movie about American identity,” he said.

“The actual issue itself was secondary to wanting to explore where we are right now, how we make big decisions.” □

## Christina Applegate exits NBC's 'Up All Night'



This undated publicity photo released by NBC shows Christina Applegate, left, as Reagan Brinkley and Will Arnett, as Chris Brinkley, in the TV series, “*Up All Night*,” Season 2, “*The Wedding*,” Episode 211. Applegate says she’s bowing out of NBC’s “*Up All Night*.” Associated Press

**LOS ANGELES (AP)** — Christina Applegate says she’s bowing out of NBC’s “*Up All Night*.”

In a statement Friday, the actress says the show has taken a “different creative direction” and she’s decided to move on to other projects. She called the sitcom a great experience and says she’ll miss her co-workers.

“*Up All Night*” starred Applegate and Will Arnett as

a couple with a new baby. The show has struggled in the ratings and has seen several changes in its producer ranks. It also was set to change formats, shifting from a single-camera to multi-camera approach when it returned for the rest of its second season.

NBC declined to comment on the future of “*Up All Night*,” which last aired in December. The sitcom isn’t currently in production. □

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# Rock pioneer Patti Smith receives Hepburn medal

**BRYN MAWR, Pennsylvania (AP)**

— Rock musician and writer Patti Smith is being honored by a U.S. college with a medal named after the late actress Katharine Hepburn.

Smith received the 2013 Katharine Hepburn Medal on Thursday night in a ceremony at the women's liberal arts school Bryn Mawr College.

Smith is recognized as a rock 'n' roll trailblazer whose work as a musician, writer, performer and visual artist influenced multiple generations. Her 1975 debut album, "Horses," is considered one of rock's greatest albums and she received the 2010 National Book Award for non-fiction for her memoir, "Just Kids." Smith said when the college approached her about receiving the award, "I enthusiastically accepted without hesitation." "My love of literature permeates my songs, poems and is certainly prevalent in my photography. Sometimes it may be a stylistic influence and at times a direct reference," she said in an

email to The Associated Press.

"I have taken photographs of Virginia Woolf's bed, Sylvia Plath's grave, Hermann Hesse's typewriter, Victor Hugo's desk. I have recently written a song and lengthy poem in homage to the great Chilean writer Roberto Bolano. My song 'My Blakean Year' gives a nod to William Blake and 'Easter' was written for Arthur Rimbaud and his siblings.

"One can find such references all through my work," she said. "Literature has always been in the center of my existence. I loved books so much that I worked in book stores right up to the recording of 'Horses.'"

College President Dr. Jane McAuliffe said Smith "conveys enormous passion and continues to transform herself throughout her artistic journey."

The medal named after Hepburn, a Bryn Mawr alumna, honors women who change their worlds and whose work and embodies the intelligence and independence of the four-time Oscar winner. □



This May 29, 2012 file photo shows rock musician and writer Patti Smith in New York. Smith is being honored by Bryn Mawr College with a medal named after the late actress Katharine Hepburn. Associated Press

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# Kick That Can



**PAUL KRUGMAN**  
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John Boehner, the speaker of the House, claims to be exasperated.

"At some point, Washington has to deal with its spending problem," he said Wednesday. "I've watched them kick this can down the road for 22 years since I've been here. I've had enough of it. It's time to act."

Actually, Boehner needs to refresh his memory.

During the first decade of his time in Congress, the U.S. government was doing just fine on the fiscal front. In particular, the ratio of federal debt to GDP was a third lower when Bill Clinton left office than it was when he came in. It was only when George W. Bush arrived and squandered the Clinton surplus on tax cuts and unfunded wars that the budget outlook began deteriorating again.

But that's a secondary issue. The key point is this: While it's true that we will eventually need some combination of revenue increases and spending cuts to rein in the growth of U.S. government debt, now is very much not the time to act. Given the state we're in, it would be irresponsible and destructive not to kick that can down the road. Start with a basic point: Slashing government spending destroys jobs and causes the economy to shrink.

This really isn't a debatable proposition at this point. The contractionary effects of fiscal austerity have been demonstrated by study after study and overwhelmingly confirmed by recent experience – for example, by the severe and continuing slump in Ireland, which was for a while touted as a shining example of responsible policy, or by the way the Cameron government's turn to austerity derailed recovery in Britain.

Even Republicans admit, albeit selectively, that spending cuts hurt employment.

Thus John McCain warned this week that the defense cuts scheduled to happen under the budget sequester would cause the loss of 1 million jobs. It's true that Republicans often seem to believe in "weaponized Keynesianism," a doctrine under which military spending, and only military spending, creates jobs. But that is, of course, nonsense.

By talking about job losses from defense cuts, the GOP has already conceded the principle of the thing.

Still, won't spending cuts (or tax increases) cost jobs whenever they take place, so we might as well bite the bullet now? The answer is no – given the state of our economy, this is a uniquely bad time for austerity.

One way to see this is to compare today's economic situation with the environment prevailing during an earlier round of defense cuts: the big winding down of military spending in the late 1980s and early 1990s, following the end of the Cold War. Those spending cuts destroyed jobs, too, with especially severe consequences in places like Southern California that relied heavily on defense contracts. At the national level, however, the effects were softened by monetary policy: The Federal Reserve cut interest rates more or less in tandem with the spending cuts, helping to boost private spending and minimize the overall adverse effect.

Today, by contrast, we're still living in the aftermath of the worst financial crisis since the Great Depression, and the Fed, in its effort to fight the slump, has already cut interest rates as far as it can – basically to zero. So the Fed can't blunt the job-destroying effects of spending cuts, which would hit with full force.

The point, again, is that now is very much not the time to act; fiscal austerity should wait until the economy has recovered, and the Fed can once again cushion the impact.

But aren't we facing a fiscal crisis? No, not at all. The federal government can borrow more cheaply than at almost any point in history, and medium-term forecasts, like the 10-year projections released Tuesday by the Congressional Budget Office, are distinctly not alarming. Yes, there's a long-term fiscal problem, but it's not urgent that we resolve that long-term problem right now.

The alleged fiscal crisis exists only in the minds of Beltway insiders.

Still, even if we should put off spending cuts for now, wouldn't it be a good thing if our politicians could simultaneously agree on a long-term fiscal plan? Indeed, it would. It would also be a good thing if we had peace on earth and universal marital fidelity. In the real world, Republican senators are saying that the situation is desperate – but not desperate enough to justify even a penny in additional taxes. Do these sound like men ready and willing to reach a grand fiscal bargain?

Realistically, we're not going to resolve our long-run fiscal issues any time soon, which is OK – not ideal, but nothing terrible will happen if we don't fix everything this year.

Meanwhile, we face the imminent threat of severe economic damage from short-term spending cuts.

So we should avoid that damage by kicking the can down the road. It's the responsible thing to do. □



## My Kingdom For A Corpse



**GAIL COLLINS**  
© 2013 New York Times

A skeleton identified as the last Plantagenet king of England was recently discovered underneath a city parking lot in Leicester. Richard III fans feel as though this is the start of a totally new career chapter.

"Now we can rebury him with honor," said Philippa Langley, a leading figure in the Richard III Society, which is dedicated to the rehabilitation of the 15th-century monarch, who's lived on in history as the villain in a Shakespeare play. Doing a round of TV interviews, Langley told CNN that the Richard she knows is "a guy who's loyal, brave, pious and just."

There's always time to turn your life around! Even when you're dead! People, what could be more American? Except for the part about how it's all happening in Britain.

Getting Richard out from under the parking lot was just the beginning. The society's website is chock-full of information about his efforts "to provide justice for all, including the poor and the vulnerable," as well as his work as a "talented administrator" and patron of the printing industry. This guy would make an excellent ruler today, or at the very least a credible governor of Wisconsin.

Langley has also written a screenplay about Richard and his achievements – all of which, by the way, had to be accomplished during a two-year reign. The movie doesn't appear to have its financing yet, but a newspaper in Scotland, where the writer lives, reported that the lead role has been offered to the actor who played dwarf leader Thorin Oakenshield in the *Hobbit* movies, and "has also starred in a number of television series including 'Spooks,' 'Robin Hood' and the 'Vicar of Dibley.'"

I am telling you that last part just because I enjoy writing the "Vicar of Dibley."

Anyway, what's left of Richard has been lying in solemn dignity on a black velvet cushion in the library of the University of Leicester, preparing for the next phase. His stock appears to be soaring. The cities of Leicester and York are already flinging petitions at each other, battling for the honor of hosting the next burial. This is an excellent lesson in the importance of keeping your metaphorical chin up. Sure, you can lose your kingdom in the Battle of Bosworth Field, get smashed on the head with a halberd, stabbed all over the place by grudge-bearing soldiers, dumped in a hole in the ground and then ultimately become subject of an exceedingly unflattering play.

But there's still the chance of a turnaround. And, really, it could happen to anyone:

Los Angeles, 2613 – Experts have confirmed that skeletal remains dug up beneath a transporter lubrication pit are indeed those of Mitt Romney, the 21st-century presidential candidate who is best known as the title character in the classic tragedy "Mitt I." Supporters hope that the discovery will lead to a reconsideration of Romney's entire life and an emphasis on achievements, such as helping to found a chain of office-

supply stores and winning one presidential debate. They plan to open a theme park that will focus on the positive side of the man known to history only as a politician who once attempted to drive to Canada with his dog strapped to the roof of his car.

"This gives us a chance to restart the conversation about one of our most unfairly vilified political figures," said Finbar Romney, a descendant who is also known by his pen name of Figg. He revealed that he has just finished plans for a new Broadway musical about his ancestor, which would explore Mitt Romney's little-known early life as a tap dancer who moonlighted as a superhero. @ See? There's nothing you can't get over if you hang in there long enough. Until now, Richard has been best known for grabbing the crown away from his young nephew and then sticking the boy and his brother in the Tower of London. It was a bad move, image-wise. But, politically speaking, it was a sin of process, like the way Lyndon Johnson stole his first Senate race, if only Johnson's opponent had wound up locked inside a state prison, never to be heard from again.

The Richard III Society hopes to get past all that, as well as rumors about the king's monster-like appearance. (One Tudor-era writer claimed he was born with teeth and shoulder-length hair, due to a two-year refusal to emerge from the womb.) A just-completed reconstruction of the long-gone monarch's head makes him look more like an undernourished Latin teacher. "I wasn't alone in finding this an approachable, kindly face, almost inviting conversation," Langley said. In 2313, maybe the Donald Trump Society will dig up the real estate developer and discover that he had a really terrific head of hair. There's hope for us all. We may be wrinkling now, but we'll look great in a few more millennia. □



# Squeezing one more in fashion's front row

BEE-SHYUAN CHANG

© 2013 New York Times

NEW YORK — Getting a front-row seat during New York Fashion Week offers attendees the chance to be photographed by paparazzi before the show begins, to actually see the clothes on the models as they strut by, and to exchange a self-congratulatory glance with Anna Wintour (even if that glance goes unacknowledged by the *Vogue* editor).

But is it worth starting a brawl over?

Last September, just before designer Zac Posen was to show his spring 2013 collection at Avery Fisher Hall, a public relations executive working the show said fire marshals had ordered more than 60 seats removed from the space as a safety precaution. She quickly began moving some attendees from their front-row spots.

Some grumbled about the change of location as they moved to their new, less prestigious seats — but not the executive of a French publishing house and her two companions.

The three refused to give up their front-row spots, with one of them reportedly slapping the public relations executive, who insisted that they move.

The next thing you know, the incident was all over Twitter, big news in *Women's Wear Daily* and the basis of a lawsuit filed by Lynn Tesoro, a partner in the HL Group, the public relations firm hired by Posen to handle the front of the house, in which she charged assault, battery, libel and slander and asked for \$1 million in damages.

And all because a second-row seat apparently wasn't good enough.

According to published reports, Marie-Jose Susskind-Jalou, president of Jalou publishing house, and her daughters, Jennifer Eymere, of *Jalouse* magazine, and Vanessa Bellu-geon, believed that they had been treated disrespectfully when Tesoro told them they had to move.

As Eymere told *WWD*, in

an article published two days after the incident, she confronted Tesoro. "I said: 'Don't speak to my mom like this. You have to stop to speak like that.' I said, 'Be careful, I am going to slap you,' and she kept doing it, and it just happened.

"It was a small slap. It was not strong," Eymere told the paper. "I didn't hurt her, it was just to humiliate her. She humiliated my mom, and I humiliated her in front of her crew."

Six months later, none of the principals or their law-

yers will discuss the continuing litigation.

But with this year's New York Fashion Week underway, designers are still trying to figure out how to maximize front-row seating at their shows — and exploring ever more creative

ways to squeeze people in — without offending clients or running afoul of the law. Though many publicists and producers seem to be siding with Tesoro in this dispute ("It's so offensive that could have happened," said Gayle Dizon, who produces runway shows for Proenza Schouler, Thakoon and Creatures of the Wind), most agree that the pressure to find as many front-row seats as possible is increasing from season to season. "In Europe you have those super long, winding pathways where it's only something like two rows deep and you can have so many guests seated," Steele said. "Here, there are more limitations. There are many venues that can accommodate 250 seated, but not 500 seated." But with large spaces, intimacy or lagging energy can be a problem. "Some designers are using gigundo venues now, but then it's all this stalking around," Wilmot said, referring to runways that can run nearly the length of a football field. □



Models present designs on a U-shaped runway to add more front-row seats during a Michael Kors show at the Lincoln Center in New York. Organizers at fashion shows are seeking ever more creative ways to increase their front-row seating, without offending clients or risking a violation of fire-safety laws.

(Elizabeth Lippman/The New York Times)

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